MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

9 JUNE 1981

Israeli Attack on Iraqi Nuclear Plant

Israelis Announce, Comment on Raid--In a special announcement broadcast by Jerusalem radio, the Israeli Government announced that on 7 June the Israeli Air Force attacked the Iraqi nuclear reactor near Baghdad, completely destroying it. All Israeli planes returned safely to base. Explaining its action, the government said it had been watching the Iraqi atomic reactor with grave concern for a long time and had recently learned from reliable sources that the reactor was meant to produce atomic bombs. It said the raid had been carried out now because Israel had learned that the reactor would have been completed and activated in July or September this year, after which the bombing would have caused a huge radioactive wave in the direction of Baghdad. Israel would then have had to look on passively while the Iraqis produced atomic bombs. Israel, therefore, decided to act without further delay, choosing a Sunday on the assumption that no foreign experts would be working on the reactor. Claiming that no foreign expert had been hit in the raid, the Israeli Government statement went on to urge France and Italy, which have assisted the Iraqis in the production of nuclear weapons, to cease "this horrible inhuman act."

Commenting on the raid in a live Jerusalem radio interview, Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin said the decision to attack the nuclear reactor was made many months ago but had been delayed. Describing Saddam Husayn as a cruel person who would not hesitate to drop atomic bombs on Israel, Begin said the Israeli people's life was in real, though not immediate, danger from the Iraqi nuclear plant. He said Israel did not fear world reaction to its action and disclosed that he had informed U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis of the Israeli attack on the night of 7 June and that he had sent President Ronald Reagan a letter in this regard. Begin also said Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat knew nothing about the operation. The Israeli leader indicated that Egyptian foreign minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali's criticism of the raid might not be backed up by President as-Sadat. He revealed that he had not consulted any politicians outside the government before deciding on the operation, although he had informed Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres, who recently wrote him a letter expressing the view that it was not desirable to carry out the attack. Begin said a report by French experts published in LE MONDE was incorrect in claiming that the Iraqi reactor was designed for research and not military purposes.

Iraqi Reaction to Raid--A Revolution Command Council statement, transmitted textually by INA, said Israel remained one of the main parties supporting Iranian aggression against Iraq. It said Israel knew that the scientific and technical gap between it and the Arab nation was one of the most decisive factors in determining the future of the Arab-Israeli conflict and was therefore trying to maintain this gap. The statement noted that Israel had participated with Iran on more than one occasion in working against Iraq and had supplied Iran with military equipment and spare parts. Moreover, Israel exploited the situation facing Iraq during the first days of the war by conducting raids on Iraqi territory aimed at Iraq's nuclear installations.

The Revolution Command Council admitted that it knew about an Israeli attempt on 27 September 1980 to strike at Iraqi nuclear installations but did not mention Israel by name for military, political and morale reasons. Confirming that a formation of nine Israeli planes raided Iraqi nuclear installations on 7 June, the statement asserted that Israel, Iran and their supporters would not be able to harness Iraq's ability to rise and progress. It expressed its confidence that those who had developed Iraq's nuclear potential to such a standard that it created so much rancor and blatant aggression by Iraq's enemies would be able to continue this trend.

Commenting on the Revolution Command Council statement, an official source said in a statement carried by the Voice of the Masses radio that Iraq did not immediately publicize the Iranian raids of 27 September 1980 and waited instead for an Iranian announcement. He said that when the Iranian announcement was not forthcoming, the general command's calculations were confirmed that the raids were perpetrated by the Israelis. The source maintained that it was "instantly clear" on 7 June that the attacking planes were Israeli but that Iraq did not hasten to make an announcement pending the compilation of all the technical data.

Arab Reaction--Damascus television, citing a Syrian Foreign Ministry source, said Syria was not taken by surprise by Israel's "criminal operation suffused with treachery and rancor," asserting that Israel's aggressive intentions were aimed at the Irab nation at large and were being helped by U.S. military equipment.

According to MENA, a statement by the Egyptian presidential office said the Israeli aggression took the Mideast one step back, harmed the peace process and opened the way for more obstacles in the path of an overall peace. The statement said the raid was provocative and devoid of any legal basis and violated international law. Cairo radio cited Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali as saying that the Israeli action was a "serious, irresponsible and unjustified crime." In a statement to SPA cited by Riyadh radio, Saudi Minister of Information Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani said the Council of Ministers discussed the international ramifications of the Israeli attack and described it as "tyrannical aggression manifesting the ultimate in international terror." According to the clandestine Voice of Palestine radio, the Palestinian Revolution Command declared that Israel's action constituted a flagrant aggression not only against Iraq but also against the entire Arab nation. It said this Israeli aggression was a challenge to all Arab countries that must be countered by a comprehensive, responsible and unified Arab stand. According to Amman radio, King Husayn told the Iraqi president in a telephone conversation that the Israeli raid showed there was no excuse for any Arab to delay his support for Iraq in its war with Iran. The king said those not standing with Iraq supported Israel. The radio also reported that in a statement to JNA, Jordanian Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim said Israel's attack was a clear warning that Israel would continue to be the real danger to peace in the Mideast and the world.

Lebanese Crisis

Cease-Fire Announced--After a concluding session in the Rayt ad-Din Palace near Beirut, the Arab Followup Committee issued a statement, broadcast by Beirut radio, announcing that the committee had noted the adherance of all parties to a cease-fire throughout Lebanese territory. The committee said it had been discussing ways to achieve national accord and bolster Lebanon's legal authority and institutions. It would continue its contacts to organize another meeting at Bayt ad-Din on 4 July in order to complete its mission.

Iran

Khomeyni Speech--In a speech to Health Ministry officials, Ayatollah Khomeyni said that this year should be considered the year of law enforcement and that those who opposed the law opposed Islam. In his speech, a recording of which was carried by Tehran radio, Khomeyni asserted that those who opposed Majlis legistation, even after it had been approved by the Council of Guardians, wittingly or unwittingly opposed Islam. He cautioned that the law was supreme and should be respected by the entire nation and noted that if those who claimed they respected the law would analyze it and conduct themselves accordingly, even if the law conflicted with their personal views, then there would be no disputes and confrontations. He said if the public prosecutor acted according to the law and someone did not accept the verdict, that was dictatorship. Khomeyni called for calm and warned that when he felt danger threatening the Islamic Republic and Islam, he would no longer confine himself to giving advice but would remove those threatening Islam from power. He warned that he would deal with those planning to cause corruption, tension and confrontation as he dealt with the late shah. He said that Iran had the means available that such people would be isolated.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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ARAB LEAGUE TO MEET IN BAGHDAD ON ISRAELI RAID

JN091318 Bahhdad INA in Arabic 1310 GMT 9 Jun 81

[Text] Tunis, 9 Jun (INA)--It was decided in the Arab League General Secretariat today to hold the Arab foreign ministers emergency meeting in Baghdad on Thursday morning. The General Secretarial has received the approval of Algeria, Kuwait, Palestine, Oman and Mauritania. Thus far, 14 Arab countries have informed the General Secretariat of their agreement to participate in the meeting to be devoted to the treacherous Zionist attack on Iraq.

PLO COMMAND STATEMENT ON ISRAELI RAID ON IRAQ

NC090938 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0645 GMT 9 Jun 81

[Text] The Palestinian Revolution Command last night issued a statement that denounces the Zionist aggression directed against Iraq's nuclear reactor near Baghdad. The statement says:

The Palestinian revolution, which daily wages battles against the Zionist enemy and is facing his continuous attacks against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples, declares that the action of the Zionist enemy and his U.S.-made fighter aircraft, which are fitted with the most up-to-date U.S. technology, in attacking the Iraqi nuclear reactor constitutes a flagrant aggression, not only against fraternal Iraq but also against our entire Arab nation--from the ocean to the Gulf.

Through this grave action, the Israeli enemy has proved that Israel is the main danger threatening security, peace and stability in the whole of the Middle East. The Israeli enemy is working to perpetuate his military hegemony over all Arab countries with the force of arms and with the unlimited support of U.S.-led world imperialism. Through this serious operation, the enemy has proven that he does not harbor ill designs against Palestine and the Palestinian people alone, but is also aiming at military control of all our region and threatening the national security of our Arab nation, defying its will and existence.

The Palestinian revolution considers this Israeli aggression against the Iraqi nuclear reactor a challenge to all Arab countries that must be countered by a comprehensive, responsible and unified Arab stand. All the Arab countries must adopt this unified stand against the Israeli-imperialist aggression, which is backed by U.S. military, political, financial and technological support. All the Arab countries must stand against Israel's belligerence and continued defiance of the whole Arab nation. The Palestinian revolution stands with all its strength on the side of fraternal Iraq in confronting this grave Israeli aggression against our Arab nation, its will and its future.

PLO OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON ISRAELI ATTACK ON IRAQ

JN081915 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1845 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Text] Arab and international reactions to the Zionist attack on the Iraqi nuclear installations are following one another.

On the Zionist raid, Brother Majid Abu Sharar, PLO Executive Committee member, said: This operation is an Israeli aggression and piracy which blatantly reveals the Zionist entity's expansionist nature. This grave aggression should teach all the Arabs a lesson: That Israel's duty in the region is not only confined to the occupation of Palestine and expulsion of the Palestinian people. Israel's intention is also to subjugate and belittle the Arab nation, impose hegemony on it and control its future and fate.

'ARAFAT SPEAKS TO PLA COMMANDERS, OFFICERS

NC090934 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0645 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Text] Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] yesterday presided over a meeting of the commanders and officers of the Palestine Liberation Army [PLA]. He explained the political situation, the conditions surrounding the revolution and the challenges facing it. He asked everyone to be alert for any eventuality.

Brother Abu 'Ammar began his address by mentioning the martyrdom of struggler Na'im Khadir, saying that the battles of the Palestinian revolution against its enemies extend from Brussels to the Negev and that there can be no revolution without sacrifices. After saying that there is no place for the weak in this world and that there is no respect for the weak-hearted, he affirmed that all speeches are not worth a small fedayeen operation. The ascendancy now is for the rifle, because it is the one thing that will define our position in this world. We are confident in the ultimate victory of our revolution.

Brother Abu 'Ammar reiterated what he had said previously, namely, that our revolution is fighting at a bad time for the Arabs, unlike the Algerian revolution, which then had the full support of the entire Arab nation under the leadership of the giant Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir, whose support for the Algerian revolution was one of the main reasons for the trilateral aggression against Egypt.

Addressing the PLA commanders and officers, Brother Abu 'Ammar said: You are not officers in a classical army. You are officers in the most difficult revolution the world has ever known. This description did not come from me. It came from General Vo Nguyen Giap, who told me that the Vietnamese revolution had the Soviet and Chinese walls to support it, in addition to the dense forests and jungles of Vietnam. As for you, you are fighting in the most sensitive region--the Arab oil region--and there is an imperialist decision to eliminate you.

Brother Abu 'Ammar noted that our revolution is unique in the world in that it is responsible for all the affairs of its people. It is responsible for their education, economic projects, health and other such matters.

Brother Abu 'Ammar noted that at one of the meetings between the two superpowers the Palestinian revolution was described as a Palestinian phenomenon. Whenever some believe that this revolution is finished, we find it increasing in strength and dynamism.

Brother Abu 'Ammar then declared that we are embarking on a new stage in which we will enter the dark tunnel or the obligatory gauntlet. However, we are confident of our ability to pass through this tunnel or gauntlet.

Afterward, Brother Abu 'Ammar discussed with the commanders and officers matters pertaining to the army, as well as the subject of general mobilization. He then answered a number of questions from the audience.

GULF AFFAIRS

PAPERS HOLD U.S. RESPONSIBLE FOR ISRAELI RAID

JN090848 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0600 GMT 9 Jun 81

[Text] Manama, 9 Jun (GNA)--Today's Arab and Gulf papers condemn the blatant terrorist Israeli aggression against nuclear installations in Iraq. The Bahrain AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ calls on the world to see the real terrorism which Israel is adopting as a philosophy, constitution and basis for its "state" since its establishment on the remains of Arab Palestine and its expansion through mass annihilation, annexation of Arab land and destruction of development centers in the Arab homeland.

The paper believes that Israel would not have dared to deal its terrorist blow had it not been for the serious rift that is weakening the Arab nation through steile differences that should not distract the Arab regimes from the common danger threatening the one homeland, no matter how real or imaginary these differences. It called on the Arab and Islamic countries to take deterrent measures to respond to the arrogant enemy with the logic of force, the only logic it understands.

The UAE paper AL-ITTIHAD calls for mobilizing all efforts, proclaiming total Arab mobilization and drawing up an Arab strategy to confront the recurrent Zionist aggressions. The paper regrets that this Israeli aggression has shown that the Arabs continue to deal with the Zionist enemy "with a sort of unbecoming laxity."

AL-BAYAN explains that the gravity of the Zionist operation against Iraq lies in the fact that the U.S. responsibility for this operation is no less than that of the Israeli enemy, for "it is inconceivable for Israel to undertake such a serious act of aggression without permission from Washington." The paper calls for reconsidering our dealings with the international balance of power and our friendships in light of this serious disequilibrium caused by the aggressive operation against the nuclear installations in Iraq.

The newspaper AL-WAHDAH says: It is America which is planning and aiding Zionist aggression against the Arabs. It is impossible to believe that America has little or no connection with the Zionist raid on the Iraqi installations. AL-WAHDAH explains: It is true that it is Israel which is fighting the Arabs, daily committing aggression against them and occupying all of Palestine and other Arab parts. However, it is even more true that Israel is a mere tool and an forward military base in the U.S. strategy.

The paper adds: In addition to being a heavy material loss for the Arabs, this blow is a painful Zionist blow to Arab will, since these reactors are one of the weapons of this will in confronting the qualitative Zionist supremacy in the civilian and military domains.

AL-KHALIJ asserts that the decisive battle will be the one with the enemy. Postponing it, under the logic of absolute power, will allow all peripheral battles to sap the strength of future Arab efforts and potentials whereby Zionist strength will increase while Arab weakness will increase, making the equation "an Israeli something versus an Arab nothing."

BAHRAIN

PRIME MINISTER'S STATEMENT ON ISRAELI RAID ON IRAQ

JN082155 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 2115 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Text] Manama, 8 Jun (GNA)--The State of Bahrain today strongly denounced the Israeli aggression against Iraq. The Bahraini prime minister, His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, has issued a statement which said:

The State of Bahrain condemns and denounces the oppressive Israeli aggression against fraternal Iraq. This aggression is part of a series of Israeli violations of all international values and norms. It undermines all efforts to ease the tension and establish a just peace in the region. The State of Bahrain supports Iraq's efforts to develop energy sources for peaceful aims. Bahrain calls on all friendly countries to denounce this aggression and blame its grave consequences on Israel. It calls on world public opinion to investigate the brutal Israeli practices against the Arab nation.

Bahrain supports the work to achieve coordination among Arab and Islamic countries to adopt deterrent measures against these aggressive actions. It calls on the Arab nation to stand in one rank in these difficult circumstances witnessed by the Arab homeland. [passage indistinct]

BAHRAIN TO ATTEND ARAB LEAGUE EMERGENCY MEETING

JN090944 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0832 GMT 9 Jun 81

[Text] Manama, 9 Jun (GNA)--Bahrain has agreed to attend the Arab League emergency meeting at the foreign ministers level to discuss the treacherous Zionist attack on Iraq. Bahraini Foreign Ministry sources today said that Bahrain has informed the Arab League General Secretariat of its approval to attend this emergency meeting requested by Iraq after its nuclear installations were attacked by the Zionist enemy. Yesterday, Iraq requested the convocation of an emergency meeting to discuss the consequences of this treacherous aggression. It also called on the UN Security Council to convene to discuss this serious behavior.

KUWAIT

PRINCE TELEPHONES SUPPORT TO IRAQ'S IBRAHIM

LD082018 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Text] The crown prince and prime minister, His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah, this evening had a telephone conversation with his brother his excellency the vice chairman of the Revolution Command Council [RCC] of the fraternal Iraqi republic, 'Izzat Ibrahim, concerning the tyrannical Zionist raid on the nuclear installations in the fraternal Iraqi region. His highness stressed to his excellency the vice chairman of the RCC in Iraq Kuwait's complete support for fraternal Iraq in confronting the Zionist enemy.

OMAN

FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL VIEWS GULF COUNCIL, USSR

LD081550 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 8 Jun 81 EA

[Text] His Excellency Yusuf al-Alawi Aboullah, under secretary of the Foreign Ministry, has stated that the Gulf Cooperation Council has made extremely important decisions to serve the common interests of the member states. His excellency said in an interview for OMAN, published today, that the dangers threatening the Gulf region are clear and well known and that there is a consensus of views on the kinds of dangers facing the region. He added that the sultanate presented its views on these dangers in a realistic manner to the council, convincing everyone of their validity. He said that perhaps these views arose from the sultanate's experience in its struggle against communism, particularly during the first 5 years following the blessed uprising. He voiced optimism that the council states will assume their full responsibilities. His excellency added that there were no differences in the views of the members of the Gulf Cooperation Council about the Soviet presence in Afghanistan, southern Yemen and Ethiopia. There was full agreement that this presence constitutes a maximum threat to the region, as well as to the Islamic heritage and the Islamic faith.

His excellency went on to say that the Gulf Council states earlier adopted Islamic and international resolutions demanding the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan.

The Islamic conference organization adopted a resolution at its extraordinary session which described the Soviet presence in Afghanistan as illegal and the Babrak Karmal government as illegitimate. The organization called for resistance to that presence and support for the Afghan mujahidin.

A resolution was also adopted at the UN General Assembly demanding the withdrawal of foreign troops, meaning Soviet troops, from Afghanistan. A similar resolution was adopted by the nonaligned states. A resolution was also adopted by the At-Ta'if Islamic summit calling for the removal of the Soviet presence from Afghanistan, for resistance to it and for support for the Afghan people's struggle through the mujahidin movement.

His excellency the under secretary of the Foreign Ministry said that Afghanistan is under Soviet occupation with more than 100,000 Soviet soldiers there. The war being waged by the Soviets against the Afghans, a Muslim people, is a dirty one.

Commenting on the visit of Soviet naval units to Aden while the Gulf Cooperation Council summit was in session, he said there is no doubt that the attitude of the USSR and its satellites, such as southern Yemen, toward the council is a negative one. They do not wish to see any cooperation among the Gulf states, so as to make it easy for them to topple the ruling regimes one after the other. He stressed that the objective of the presence of the Soviet naval units in Aden was to influence the decisions of the Gulf Cooperation Council.

His excellency the under secretary of the Foreign Ministry described the relations between the Arab states of the Gulf and the West and the United States as relations founded on mutual respect and equality. His excellency went on to explain that the Gulf states sell oil to the West in return for commodities and goods to promote their economies. This process is founded on a basis of equality without any pressures or other methods entailing any form of hegemony. The Sultanate of Oman, for instance, can sell its oil to Britain, the Netherlands or Japan, depending on the best offer it receives. At the same time, the sultanate can buy what it needs from the Western nations, depending on the best offers which it receives. His excellency went on to say that on the other hand we see the USSR striving to bring down legitimate regimes and replace them with other regimes subservient to it, which it can dominate and whose resources it can consequently plunder without anyone checking or opposing it.

SAUDI ARABIA

CABINET DENOUNCES ISRAELI RAID, SUPPORTS IRAQ

GF081935 Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Excerpts] The Cabinet held an important meeting this evening under Crown Prince and Regent Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. At the beginning of the session, King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz phoned Crown Prince Fahd and issued his directives on the serious situation resulting from the Israeli aggression against fraternal Iraq. The Cabinet was concerned and discussed various factors resulting from this serious international situation following Israel's overt aggression against fraternal Iraq.

As the Saudi Arabian Kingdom denounces this aggression and strongly condemns it, it also declares full support for fraternal Iraq. The Cabinet is still in session.

MINISTER MAKES STATEMENT CONDEMNING ISRAELI RAID

LD082120 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Excerpt] The Council of Ministers held a session this evening chaired by His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, regent and crown prince. After the meeting, the minister of information, Dr Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani, stated that his majesty the exalted king had contacted His Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and together they reviewed the serious situation which resulted from the Israeli aggression on fraternal Iraq yesterday.

In a statement to the SAUDI PRESS AGENCY, his excellency said that the council then discussed the dimensions of this situation in the international arena and it described the Israeli aggression as a tyrannical aggression manifesting the ultimate in international terror practiced by tyrannical Israel which hides behind the slogan of a state when, in fact, it is no more than a colonizing force spreading terror, shedding blood, rendering a whole nation homeless and continuing expansion and the seizure of Arab land.

Then the minister on information went on: Israel has continued to spread terror under the cloak of deceit and cunning with which it is trying to mislead the free world. He said that Israeli interventions and repeated attacks on Lebanon serve as new proof of this hated terror which it carries out and with which it kills thousands of innocent people every day, defying all the international laws and UN resolutions, which have condemned Israeli aggression more than once.

Dr Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani denounced Israel and its continued aggression and exploitation of the problems which the Arab nation is experiencing. Today we have been surprised by Israel's own admission of its arrogance and tyranny and its declaration that it has struck the nuclear reactor which was set up in Baghdad for peaceful purposes, using, as usual, a screen of fictitious excuses. He affirmed that this new Israeli crime proves to the entire world the aggressive and expansionist aims of Israel.

He announced that the kingdom appeals to the Arab and Islamic nation and leaders at this crucial time to forget their marginal and temporary differences and unite around their basic aims in the face of permanent danger. The kingdom also affirms the need for the Arab and Islamic nation to stand as one in the face of this new challenge. It should place all potential at the service of this common aim.

Dr Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani expressed confidence in God's support, now that the aggression of tyrant Israel has gone further, and the conviction that all the peace-loving countries and international public opinion will condemn these attacks, which reflect a continuing Israeli arrogance and defiance of the entire world community.

The minister of information said that His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz affirmed to the council that the kingdom, while strongly denouncing this Israeli aggression, will stand alongside fraternal Iraq with all its energies, and God is the sole giver of victory.

UAE

'ABDALLAH CONDEMNS ISRAELI RAID, SUPPORTS IRAQ

JN090945 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0915 GMT 9 Jun 81

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 9 June (GNA)--The UAE today strongly condemned the Zionist enemy's serious aggression against the Iraqi nuclear installations the day before yesterday and asserted that this new aggression is the biggest proof of the Zionist enemy's continuous hostile expansionist intentions against the Arab nation.

Rashid 'Abdallah, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, said the Israeli operation was an act of terrorism, a flagrant violation of human values and further proof of the ill intentions that the odious Zionist Israelis harbor for mankind. By such crimes, Israel is flouting all international laws and norms as well as human rights, he added. Rashid 'Abdallah said: Iraq and the Arab nation are not surprised by the Zionist enemy's behavior and provocations. But the blame should be on those who condone Israel's acts of injustice and violence against the Arab nation.

Rashid 'Abdallah asserted the UAE's readiness to attend any meeting called by Iraq for joint Arab action against this serious aggression and act of terrorism, especially when it is obvious that the nuclear installations are for peaceful purposes. 'Abdallah said that his country will do all it can to support Iraq and its just stands.

PRESIDENT DENIES CONDONING SOVIETS IN AFGHANISTAN

JN081843 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1740 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 8 Jun (ENA)--The UAE president, His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, has denied what the Pris-based Arabic language AL-MUSTAQBAL magazine atrributed to him, that he said the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan was 'legal'. In a statement to the EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY, his highness said that the Soviets entered Afghanistan at the official invitation of its present government.

His highness denied what the magazine had reported in its issue last Saturday about his opinion on establishing diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union. He said: We still do not understand the justifications of those who oppose or support establishing diplomatic relations with the USSR. His highness added: If the supporters prove that the Soviets do not interfere in the affairs of states and respect human rights we might be convinced by their proof and if the opponents prove that the Soviets interfere in the affairs of others and do not respect human rights, then we will renounce and shun them.

YAR

FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT ON ISRAELI RAID ON IRAQ

JN082057 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Text] The Foreign Ministry has issued a statement on the heinous Israeli aggression against the nuclear installations in fraternal Iraq. The statement said:

The YAR has received with profound concern the news about the Zionist air raid against the Iraqi nuclear installations. The YAR condemns and denounces this blatant aggression and heinous treachery perpetrated by the Zionist entity, and declares its firm and principled stand at the side of fraternal Iraq and of all the Arab brothers against repeated Israeli aggression and occupation in Palestine and in all Arab territories. The YAR calls on all the Arab brothers to increase their cohesion and solidarity in the face of Zionism and its aggressive stands, which prove to humanity that Israel has always been and will always remain an instrument of aggression against all the Arabs wherever they may be. The YAR calls on international public opinion to condemn this treacherous operation and to denounce it.

STATEMENTS, REACTION ON ISRAELI RAID ON IRAQ

Presidential Office Statement

NC082222 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2141 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Text] Cairo, 8 Jun (MENA)--A statement issued tonight by the presidential office denounced the Israeli aggression against Iraq. It considered this raid a provocative act, devoid of any legal basis, that violates international law and contradicts the spirit of peace. The statement affirmed that this act will entail an escalation of tension in the area and harm peace and stability.

A spokesman for the president's office has stated that the Arab Republic of Egypt denounces the Israeli aggression against Iraq and considers it a provocative act, devoid of any legal basis, that violates international laws and contradicts the spirit of peace. This act will result in an escalation of tension in the area and harm peace and stability.

Such unjustified actions serve to enhance hatred among the people and instill feelings of conflict and paradox at a time when we are in dire need of spreading the meaning of and the belief in peace as the only way for a more stable and secure future. Hence, the Israeli aggression takes our area one step back, harms the peace process, and opens the way for more obstacles in the path of an overall peace, which should be the supreme aim of all the parties because this is the foremost demand of the people who are struggling for a better tomorrow.

Egypt, which has embarked on the initiative for a just and overall peace and which has decisively confronted the challenges of peace, finds it imperative to draw attention to the peril inherent in committing such acts and to the dire consequences emanating from them, which contradict the requisites of the delicate phase through which the efforts to achieve a durable and overall peace in the area are passing.

'Ali Statement

NC081506 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1459 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Text] We have just received the following:

Israel today announced that it bombed the Iraqi atomic reactor yesterday. Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has stated that when condemning this action, Egypt considers it as a serious, irresponsible and unjustified crime [ijram], and that it is a serious escalation of the explosive situation in the Middle East. The Foreign Ministry will issue a statement on this incident.

Foreign Ministry Statement

NC081728 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1659 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Text] We have just received the following statement from the Egyptian Foreign Ministry:

Egypt has received with deep concern the news that Israel has bombed the Iraqi nuclear reactor. Egypt considers this a serious measure leading to the escalation of the explosive situation in the Middle East.

When condemning this irresponsible action, Egypt believes that it does not conform at all with the peace efforts in the region and with what all states should do to create the appropriate climate conducive to an atmosphere of trust and goodwill. It also conflicts with the spirit that prevailed at the recent meetings in Sharm ash-Shaykh. Egypt responded to the call for holding these meetings as a continuation of its constant efforts to strengthen peace and stability in the area.

The unjustifiable military aggression that Israel committed against Iraq will have negative effects on the stability of the region and its security, diminishing the importance of the gain that the Israeli Government sought by this violent measure, which will necessarily lead to increasing tension in he Middle East to a great degree.

In view of its constant efforts for peace in the region and in line with its policy that is aimed at establishing stability, Egypt cannot but condemn this action by the Israeli Government and express its deep regret over the Israeli Government's embarkation on this step, which conflicts with all the international conventions and does not conform with the peace efforts in the area.

Foreign Ministry Contacts

NC082118 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2028 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Text] Cairo, 8 Jun (MENA)--MENA has learned that the Egyptian Foreign Ministry tonight contacted Egypt's permanent delegate at the United Nations, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, and informed him about the official statement that the Egyptian Foreign Ministry issued, denouncing the Israeli attack on the Iraqi nuclear reactor. MENA has also learned that the Foreign Ministry requested its delegate to convey Egypt's position in this regard to the United Nations and to adopt the Egyptian statement as an official document at the United Nations.

The Foreign Ministry also contacted Egypt's ambassador in Washington Dr Ashraf Ghurbal and requested him to hold urgent contacts with U.S. officials and convey to them Egypt's condemnation and denunciation of this Israeli measure, which does not conform with the march of peace and conflicts with the Camp David accord. He was also requested to convey to them Egypt's concern over this Israeli action.

MENA has further learned that the Egyptian Foreign Ministry has also contacted Egypt's ambassador in the Netherlands, 'Abd al-Aziz Khayrat, and asked him to convey to the Netherlands, in its capacity as the current chairman of the European Community, Egypt's position on the Israeli operation against the nuclear reactor and communicate the text of the Egyptian statement denouncing and condemning this Israeli measure.

Nawfal Reaction

NC082038 Cairo MENA in English 2010 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Text] Cairo, 8 Jun (MENA)--The secretary general of the League of Islamic and Arab Peoples, Dr Sayyid Nawfal, asserted today that Israel's bombardment of the Iraqi reactor constitutes a very serious and unjustifiable act. In a commentary on the act, Nawfal further said that this aggression should lead the Arabs to close ranks and to resent dissensions and disputes that fragmented and dismembered them. "The Arabs should stand hand in hand and work out unified plan to face this flagrant violation and serious escalation of the situation, which comes as an offspring to the Arab diaspora and Syria's adventures in Lebanon, Libya's adventure in Chad and other Arab disputes," he said.

Newspaper Commentaries

NC090816 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0610 GMT 9 Jun 81

[From the press review]

[Text] In an AL-AKHBAR article entitled "An Ugly Act," Musa Sabri describes the Menahem Begin government's aggression against Iraq as an ugly act that violates all the ideals and principles of peace. The writer adds: It is an unjustified aggression. If Iraq is building a nuclear reactor, Israel has built a bigger and stronger reactor. Hence, Israel has given justification for a similar aggression against it.

The writer states that Israel's oft-repeated pretext of security is obsolete. This pretext has become obsolete with time because it deprives others of their security and safety. This is an aggressive exploitation of the weapons that Israel is obtaining from the United States and that it keeps asking for more and more of. The writer says that if the Begin government imagines that it [word indistinct] what Iraq is building and that it can use any method to arouse the feelings of the Israeli voters so that they will cast their votes in favor of Begin's list, his government must understand that this reckless aggressive behavior will increase Israel's isolation and will lead to the world's denunciation of this policy, which provokes everyone's noble feelings for peace.

Concluding his article, the writer affirms that winning voters with such a method means losing the world's votes. He also expresses the hope that the peace-loving Israeli people will understand these facts and defend them.

Under the headline "A Futile Method," AL-JUMHURIYAH says: Israel, on the pretext of preventing war, has committed several crimes against peace and humanity. It massacred women and children in Dayr Yasin, destroyed schools in Bahr al-Baqar, bombed refugee camps in Lebanon and assassinated leaders of the Palestinian resistance.

The October War then came, causing shock waves in Israel. Egypt then offered a peace initiative and signed with Israel the Camp David agreements, which defined the framework for a comprehensive and just peace in the area.

While we are in the process of peace, Israel was supposed to abandon these archaic concepts--the methods of the pre-independence secret Zionist organizations--and to behave like a civilized state that realizes its responsibilities toward the world community, above all its responsibility toward paving the way for peace. However, this serious and unjustified Israeli aggression against the Iraqi nuclear reactor is proof that Israel pays no attention to the whole world's denunciation of it. Developments have proved that this policy is futile, harmful and outdated.

PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY DISCUSSES LEBANESE ISSUE

NC081643 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Text] The People's Assembly resumed its sessions today under the chairmanship of Assembly Speaker Dr Sufi Abu Talib. The assembly debated the report of the joint subcommittee emanating from the Arab Affairs Committee and the Foreign Relations Committee on the recent events in Lebanon. The report reaffirms Egypt's eagerness to safeguard Lebanon's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity. It demands the Arab leaders to discard their differences, bypass the narrow regional outlook and resist any plan that does not conform with the interests of the region.

The report urges all the non-Lebanese sides that are involved in the crisis to take their hands off Lebanon and refrain from interfering in its domestic affairs. The report demands the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon.

In its report, the subcommittee demands the Lebanese leaders to tackle their issue in a wise, frank and objective way to achieve a national settlement that would safeguard Lebanon's unity and preserve its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali then commented on the report. He explained that Egypt carried out intensive efforts during the past 3 weeks aimed at safeguarding Lebanon's unity and Arabism and at protecting the Palestinian presence in Lebanon. The deputy prime minister said that President as-Sadat sent a message to the Israeli prime minister on 19 May dealing with the situation in Lebanon.

The message stressed the need to work to achieve as much stability as possible in Lebanon and to exercise self-restraint and noninterference in its internal affairs, refrain from extending support to the isolationist elements and stop the allegations of defending religious minorities. It further stressed the need to settle the missile crisis through quiet diplomacy and to concentrate on safeguarding peace and stability in the region as a main condition for guaranteeing the success of the current efforts to establish a just, durable and comprehensive peace.

The deputy prime minister and foreign minister said that the Sharm ash-Shaykh meeting between President as-Sadat and Begin was a continuation of Egypt's efforts to lay down the appropriate bases for tackling the situation in Lebanon. He referred to President as-Sadat's emphasis at this meeting that it was necessary for Israel to give U.S. envoy Philip Habib ample time to secure the success of his mission and to the president's request to Israel to put an end to its raids on the Palestinian camps in southern Lebanon and to work for concluding peace with united Lebanon. He also referred to the president's request that the Lebanese president should adopt a clear stand on the presence of the Syrian forces in Lebanon.

'Ali stressed that Egypt's eagerness to safeguard the Palestinian presence in Lebanon is in line with its eagerness to preserve the safety of Lebanon, its land and people. He pointed out that Egypt is eager to exploit the positive results of the peaceful relations with Israel to create the appropriate conditions for protecting the Palestinian people and their interests. The key to a solution, he said, lies in ending the Syrian domination of the Lebanese people's destiny, stopping the Syrian regime's tampering with the future of Lebanon, intensifying efforts to bolster the legitimate authority in Lebanon and halting all types of external interference and aggression against the Palestinian people.

AL-QADHDHAFI SAID PLANNING TERRORISM AGAINST ARABS

NC081134 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1035 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Text] Cairo, 8 Jun (MENA)--According to reports circulating in diplomatic circles in some Arab capitals, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi is preparing a terrorist scheme against some Arab states. This scheme includes kidnapping and sabotage against the Arab oil states, particularly Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, through Palestinians, Iranians and others trained by the PFLP, led by George Habash.

Diplomatic circles are also talking about an attempt to assassinate King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia when he visits London this month. Arrangements for this attempt, it is being said, are being made by certain Palestinian organizations, especially those headed by George Habash and Ahmad Jabril, with the support of Libya and Syria.

The same circles emphasize that Colonel al-Qadhdhafi is seeking the help of the internationally known terrorist Carlos in planning these terrorist operations, in which Syrian intelligence is participating.

These circles believe that these reports will confuse the attitudes of the Arab states trying to settle the Lebanese crisis. They expect that the quadripartite committee formed to examine the Lebanese question will fail because Syria is unhappy about the formation of the committee, is afraid of the possible outcome and has incited the leftists cooperating with it in Lebanon against this committee.

REACTION TO ISRAELI RAID ON NUCLEAR INSTALLATION

Text of RCC Statement

JN081603 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1540 GMT 8 Jun 81

["Text" of RCC statement on Israeli raid on nuclear plant]

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Jun (INA)--It has been announced here that nine Zionist enemy planes yesterday raided Baghdad, targeted at the nuclear installations. In a statement issued today, the Revolution Command Council [RCC] said that the enemies will not be able to diminish our capability to achieve progress and development, either in the field of technology and science or in the field of the social and economic transformations.

The RCC asserted that the men who through their loyalty to their people and nation, through their faith in their issue and through their minds and efforts have managed to enable Iraq to reach a level of nuclear technology on a level that has incited rancor and aggression on the part of their enemies are also capable of proceeding on this course.

The RCC pointed out that it has been well known since the beginning that several local and international quarters have stood and continue to stand behind the rush of the Iranian regime to incite conflict with Iraq. These quarters have also been behind the continuation of this war for the past several months. The RCC added that these quarters have given and continue to give Iran political and military aid and support, including information and direct and indirect technical and intelligence consultations to enable it to attain its evil objectives against Iraq.

The following is the text of the Revolution Command Council statement: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Great Iraqi people, sons of the glorious Arab nation, it has been known to us from the beginning that many parties, local and international, have been and still are behind the eagerness of the backward and suspect Iranian regime to stir up the dispute with, to commit aggression against and begin the war against Iraq. They have been behind the continuation of this war for several months because of their political and military support and backing for Iran, including information, technical consultations and direct and indirect military intelligence, in order to achieve their evil objectives against Iraq. The main party has been the Zionist entity, which understands completely that a liberated, developed and capable Iraq is a decisive factor in determining the results of the Arab conflict against the Zionist entity today and tomorrow.

The Zionist entity understands that one of the most decisive factors in determining the future of the conflict the Arab nation is waging against it is the continuing technical and scientific gap between it and the Arab nation. Therefore, it is trying by all means to insure that this gap is such that the Arab nation will be unable to achieve victory over it in the conflict.

Based on this strategic objective, the Zionist enemy has on more than one occasion directly and indirectly participated with Iran against Iraq. This has included supplying Iran with military equipment and spare parts. Zionist enemy planes also raided Iraq on the first days of the war, thus exploiting the war circumstances against Iran, in collusion with the suspect regime in Iran. The raids were aimed in particular at the Iraqi nuclear installations.

We knew of and exposed the first attempt which took place on 27 September 1980. At the time we broadcast a statement about two raids on Baghdad. However, we did not mention the Zionist enemy by name for military and political reasons and for reasons of morale and because we know from experience that declarations by Arab regimes about the participation of other parties in conflicts between them and the enemies are always coupled with failure as well as pretexts and justifications for this failure. That is why we hinted at the fact at the time and did not disclose all the details officially.

Compatriots, today we declare that the Zionist enemy planes yesterday carried out an air raid on Baghdad. At 1837 hours, a formation of nine planes raided the nuclear installations. As on 27 September 1980, we preferred not to hurry to announce this raid. As we were preparing this statement, after collecting all the evidence on this raid, the Zionist enemy this afternoon claimed responsibility for the raid.

Oh brothers, son of Iraq and sons of the Arab nation, this treacherous operation reveals to you a basic and important aspect of the reasons that had prompted the suspect regime in Iran to kindle war with Iraq and to continue this war for 10 months, despite all the efforts that had been exerted to avert it and have been exerted to stop it on a just and honorable basis that would guarantee the legitimate rights and interests of both Iraq and Iran. The Zionist enemy is trying to achieve its objectives and to achieve for the rulers in Tehran and Qom what they have failed to achieve during the 10 months of this treacherous war.

Brothers, we declare, from a position of capability and optimism about final victory in the fields of conflict with all the enemies of the Arab nation that are trying to halt its victorious march toward freedom, progress and unity, that these Zionist and Persian enemies, and all those who stand by and support them secretly and openly, will not be able to check our ability to rise up and progress, be it in the field of technology or in the field of economic and social change. They will not shake this giant revolution from its determination to be one with the masses and to express its hopes and aspirations. The men who have been able through their loyalty to their people and nation, their faith in their cause and their minds and efforts to bring Iraq's nuclear potential up to the standard that has created this rancor and causes this blatant aggression by the Zionist and Persian enemies make us confident that they are also capable of continuing this trend no matter what our enemies try and no matter what these enemies can achieve in their attempts to cause direct or indirect harm.

The road Iraq has taken under its victorious revolution--the road of freedom, independence and progress, the road of cohesion between the leadership and the masses-will not be abandoned. This road will remain wide open, God willing. Victory to our hero people and glory to our Arab nation.

[Signed] Revolution Command Council, Baghdad, 6 Sha'ban 1401 corresponding to 8 June 1981

Comment by 'Official Source'

JN081803 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1713 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Text] Commenting on the Revolution Command Council [RCC] statement, an official source has made the following statement: On 27 September 1980, when the Iranian enemy planes' activities were at their peak, two raids were carried out on Baghdad targeted against the nuclear installations. At the time, the General Command discovered that the nature of these two raids differed from those carried out by Iranian planes. The General Command had noted previously that some enemy planes which had been shot down by our guns had their ejection mechanism locked, a fact which led to the burning of the pilots of planes shot down, as the pilots were unable to bail out.

When the two raids occurred on 27 September 1980, the Genceral Command did not announce them immediately, waiting instead for the Iranian authorities' announcement, for they customarily issued statements about their military operations and their air raids on Iraq as soon as they were carried out. As of late that evening the Iranian authorities had not announced anything about these two raids, thus confirming the General Command's calculations and assessments that the two raids were perpetrated by the Zionist enemy. At the time, Communique No 45 was issued, alluding to the two raids but without attributing them to the Iranian authorities.

The communique said verbatim: Two raids were carried out by our enemies. These two raids were not announced by us at the time due to special calculations pertaining to the battle in terms of political, military, strategic and mobilization considerations. Announcing these raids at the time could have meant wasting the lessons derived from these raids.

At 1837 Yesterday, a number of enemy planes raided Baghdad and the nuclear installations. It was instantly clear to us that these planes were Zionist planes as they were followed by Iraqi radar and by radar in fraternal Jordan, particularly on their return to the occupied land.

We preferred not to hurry to announce the raids until all the technical information on the raid could be compiled. As the RCC statement was being prepared this afternoon, the Zionist enemy announced its responsibility for the raid, thus disclosing all the facts.

Brothers, day after day, the real significance of the battle of Saddam's Qadisiyah lies in its capacity as the battle of Arab fate not only against the arrogant Persian enemy but also against the Zionist enemy and all the nation's enemies. Is this not proof enough to all those who are continuing their evil deeds, intentionally or in ignorance, who have stood idly by during Iraq's honorable battle and who have declared their open bias toward the Persian enemy at a time when they were falsely claiming patriotism? Is this not proof enough which is the real force and which is the real national and pan-Arab force at which the Zionist enemy is aiming?

Officials Meet Ambassadors

JN082020 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1955 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Jun (INA)--Tonight Iraq acquainted the five UN Security Council permanent members with the Israeli attack on Iraq and the bombing of the nuclear installations.

Tariq 'Aziz, Revolution Command Council member and deputy prime minister, has received the Soviet ambassador in Baghdad, whereas Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi received the ambassadors of Britain, France and the PRC as well as the head of the U.S. Interests Section in Baghdad.

At these meetings, the five ambassadors were acquainted with Iraq's stand on this attack, which constitutes a danger to peace and security in the area, a violation of Iraq's sovereignty and independence, an escalation of the exacerbated situation and an embodiment of the Zionist entity's expansionist and aggressive policy. The Zionist entity aims at imposing a dangerous status quo in the area that would drag the area into accepting a formula for solving the Middle East situation as desired by the Zionist entity.

The two Iraqi officials explained to the five ambassadors that Iraq, which is always committed to its pledges to international charters, particularly the charter banning the profileration of nuclear arms--a commitment supported by the International Atomic Energy Agency--once again reminds world public opinion of the Zionist entity's rejection of these commitments and its insistence in having nuclear arms and in preventing the Arab world from developing its society technically by means of the peaceful nuclear plans.

UN Security Council Session

JN082111 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2050 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Jun (INA)--Iraq has called for holding an emergency session of the UN Security Council to discuss the Zionist aggression against it and the bombing of Iraq's nuclear installations.

The call was contained in a cable sent tonight by Iraqi Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi to the UN Security Council chairman and the UN secretary general. Following is the text of the cable:

I have the honor to ask for an immediate meeting of the Security Council to discuss Israel's grave aggression against Iraq which entails serious effects on world peace and security.

At 1837 on Sunday, 8 June 1981, Israeli warplanes raided Baghdad to destroy the Iraqi nuclear reactor installations. Israel has admitted carrying out this premeditated aggressive action. We would like to draw the attention of the Security Council members to the fact that Israel has always refused to sign or ratify the treaty on the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons. The international community has expressed its apprehension over Israel's possession and development of nuclear weapons. Resolution No 34/89 entitled "Nuclear Armament of Israel" has a special bearing in this regard.

Iraq, which is a party to the treaty banning the proliferation of nuclear weapons, is a victim of this barbaric act. The International Atomic Energy Agency has not recorded any violation by Iraq of the guarantees agreement. Therefore, the international community cannot remain silent over this serious escalation of Israeli aggression.

The Security Council is called upon to convene without delay to study the situation and to adopt effective measures. Please accept our great appreciation.

[Signed] Dr Sa'dun Hammadi, the foreign minister of the Iraqi Republic.

'Arafat Denunciation

JN081956 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1945 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Text] Beirut, 8 Jun (INA)--The INA correspondent here has reported that Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, has denounced the report on the Zionist aggression against the Iraqi nuclear reactor. The correspondent added that 'Arafat called the Iraqi charge d'affaires in Beirut to inquire about the details of the Zionist aggression.

YAR, Saudi Leaders

JN082151 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2150 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Jun (INA)--It was announced in Baghdad tonight that YAR President Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia had denounced the Zionist aggression against Iraq.

In telephone conversations with President Saddam Husayn, the two leaders asserted their support for Iraq in confronting the Zionist attacks which are aimed against Iraq's sovereignty and independence.

Foreign Ministry Briefing

JN090547 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0300 GMT 9 Jun 81

[Text] Last night, the Foreign Ministry summoned the ambassadors of the UN Security Council nonpermanent member states accredited in Baghdad and briefed them on the treacherous Zionist attacks on Iraq and the Iraqi nuclear installations. The ambassadors were acquainted with Iraq's stand on the Zionist attack, which constitutes a danger to peace and security in the region, a violation of Iraq's sovereignty and independence, an escalation of the exacerbated situation and an embodiment of the expansionist and aggressive policy of the Zionist entity, which seeks to impose a dangerous state of affairs on the region that would drag it into accepting a formula for solving the Palestinian issue as desired by the Zionist entity.

Statement on ABC Film

JN081819 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1805 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Jun (INA)--An Iraqi information source has described as fabricated the film that was aired by the U.S. television network ABC in which it claimed that the film was shot during the Zionist raid on the Iraqi nuclear reactor yesterday.

In a statement to INA tonight, the source said that the film was shot by a U.S. photographer from a Baghdad hotel at the beginning of the Persian enemy's aggressive war. He said that the ABC network had added to it scenes of fire, claiming that the fire had resulted from the raid.

The source asserted that not a single U.S. television correspondent is in Iraq at present, pointing out that the last correspondent left Iraq a few months ago.

Baghdad Press Comment

JN090933 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0740 GMT 9 Jun 81

[Text] Baghdad, 9 Jun (INA)--The newspaper ATH-THAWRAH says strong and powerful Iraq will continue its patient revolutionary line with firm, relentless determination and constant high spirit to build its revolutionary, scientific and technological edifice and strengthen its military capability.

The paper, mouthpiece of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, adds that Iraq, which has crushed the arrogance of the Magian Persians on the eastern flank of the Arab homeland, will continue to confront the Imperialist-Zionist-Persian alliance and score decisive victories over all the enemies of the Arab nation until this glorious nation assumes its effective historic role in building the edifice on human civilization.

Commenting on the treacherous Zionist raid on the Iraqi nuclear installations the day before yesterday, ATH-THAWRAH says: This treacherous Zionist aggression on our country serves as new and firm proof of the effective role played by Iraq in the Arab-Zionist conflict and of the true mettle and importance of the Iraqi revolution in the pan-Arab struggle. It also serves as proof of the mean hatred which the alien Zionists harbor for our country and revolution. The Zionist entity, which is aware of Iraq's perseverance to bridge the scientific and technological gap between the Arab nation and Israel, wants to stop this at any cost.

ATH-THAWRAH stressed that the treacherous aggression will only make Iraq and its revolution more determined to pursue their revolutionary scientific line in confronting the enemies of the Arab nation and in continuing their effective and distinctive role in the Pan-Arab battle against the Zionist entity.

Concluding, the paper describes the treacherous Zionist aggression as a significant and serious link in the chain of enemy plots against the Arab nation and says that the conceited and ignorant Persian enemy, which is the main tool in implementing the hostile plan against the revolution, thinks that by prolonging the war it would enable the enemies to implement the remaining links of the conspiracy.

Commenting on the same subject, AL-JUMHURIYAH says: The treacherous Zionist raid was aimed at obstructing the technological progress begun by Iraq with precision and perseverance. It was a desperate effort demonstrating Zionism's fear of Iraq's progress, power and ability to successfully carry out its projects despite the fact that it is fighting an all-out war with the Persian enemy.

The paper adds: This raid attests to Iraq's principled legitimate stands. It should distinguish between those who work for the interest of the nation and its religion and the enemies of the nation and Islam.

Concluding, AL-JUMHURIYAH says the treacherous Zionist raid on the Iraqi nuclear installations serves as new proof of the Zionist enemy's real fear of the striking power of strong awakening Iraq, the vanguard on the Arab nation. The raid has revealed that the Zionist entity's hatred on Iraq coincides today with the racist Persians' hatred of Iraq and the Arab nation.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUE 362

JN081736 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1655 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Jun (INA)--The Iraqi forces have killed 146 Iranians and destroyed 4 infantry positions, 1 armored personnel carrier, 1 gun, 2 vehicles, 1 excavator, 2 observation posts and 3 stockpiles of hardware.

Communique No 362 issued this evening by the Armed Forces General Command reported the Iraqi Armed Forces' military activities during the past 24 hours. The text of the communique is as follows:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. It is an established truth that the Arab nation's enemies are united in their open and secret malice against it. The Zionist enemy and Persian enemy are two sides of a coin. The Zionist enemy had previously attempted to participate with the Persian enemy in its aggressive war against the Arab nation's Iraq, the Arab bastion of liberation. Yesterday, the Zionist enemy again proved its stand on the side of the racist Persian enemy in its treacherous war against our great people.

The results of the activities of our heroic armed forces in the operations sectors yesterday evening and this morning were as follows:

1. Known enemy losses:

   A. Four were killed opposite our units' positions in the Nowsud area.
   B. One of our forward units raided the enemy's positions and concentrations in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab region, using all its weapons to strike hard at the enemy, killing 108 and wounding a large number.
   C. Seven were killed and one infantry position, one vehicle and one stockpile of hardware were destroyed in the Gilan-e Gharb area.
   D. Four were killed in the Mehran area.
   E. Four were killed and two infantry positions and one observation post were destroyed in the Shush region.
   F. Our units pounded the enemy's troop concentrations opposite their positions in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area, forcing them to flee, leaving behind 11 dead.
   G. Eight were killed and one infantry position, one armored personnel carrier, one gun, one vehicle carrying hardware, one excavator, one observation post and two stockpiles of hardware were destroyed in the Abadan area.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 146 dead and 4 infantry positions, 1 armored personnel carrier, 1 gun, 2 vehicles, 1 excavator, 2 observation posts and 3 stockpiles of hardware destroyed.

II. Our losses:

   A. In personnel: 26 martyrs in all sectors.
   B. In equipment: Three tanks and two mortars were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 8 June 1981

REACTION TO ISRAELI RAID ON NUCLEAR INSTALLATIONS

King Husayn Condemnation

JN081638 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn this afternoon telephoned his brother His Excellency President Saddam Husayn inquiring about the results of the Israeli air aggression against the nuclear installations in Baghdad. His majesty expressed his sorrow over and condemnation of this treacherous aggression, and affirmed Jordan's firm and strong support to Iraq in its just war against the Iranian aggression on Arab territory and waters in the eastern flank of the Arab homeland, and against Zionist aggression in coordination with Iran against the vital centers and targets in fraternal Iraq, which have been and will always remain the strategic depth of Jordan and other Arab states in Arab Asia, especially the Arab countries on the line of contact with the enemy.

His majesty affirmed that the Zionist air strike against Iraq shows anew that Israel continues to enlarge its circle of aggression against the Arab nation and chooses in this aggression vital centers of progress and economic transformation. His majesty said that as we evaluate the results of this aggression, and it is time for the Arab nation to do that, we say that the most important result is clear to the eye; namely, that there is no excuse for any Arab to stall, postpone or delay his support for Arab Iraq in its just war against Iran, that those who do not stand with Iraq support Israel and that whoever supports Iran in word or deed is eventually supporting the Zionist enemy. No rational or conscientious person can accept any justification for distinguishing between these two aggressions against the Arab nation.

Al-Qasim Urges Support

JN090602 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 9 Jun 81

[Text] Amman--Foreign Minister Marwan Al-Qasim has announced Jordan's denunciation of and resentment at the criminal attack the Israeli enemy carried out the day before yesterday on Iraqi nuclear installations near Baghdad.

In a statement to JNA, Al-Qasim said: Rancor against the Arab nation has prompted Israel to wage this treacherous attack on the Iraqi nuclear reactor. It is a clear warning to the Arabs and the whole world that Israel will continue to constitute the real danger to peace in the Middle East and the world.

Al-Qasim said: Fraternal Iraq has called an urgent session of the Arab League council at the foreign ministers level in Baghdad to discuss the Zionist aggression against Iraq. Jordan declares its complete support for fraternal Iraq's request and calls on all the Arab states to assume their full responsibilities toward the Arab destiny, which is facing the gravest danger. While praising the Iraqi Republic's request for holding the urgent Arab League council meeting in Baghdad, Jordan hopes that all the Arab states will respond to this request so as to tackle the crucial dangers facing the Arab nation.

Al-Qasim said: It has become clear now that the Zionist enemy has struck at Iraq because it considers Iraq the strategic depth of not only the frontline states, but also the real depth of all the Arab east states and the real power that can fend off all dangers to the Arabs. Therefore, pan-Arab duty makes it incumbent on all Arabs to remain alert to the grave danger the Zionist entity poses to the Arabs.

Al-Qasim added: Jordan urges the Arab nation and the world public to declare their denunciation and condemnation of Israel's continuous aggressions against the Arabs.

Amman Press Comment

JN090754 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 9 Jun 81

[From the press review]

[Text] AD-DUSTUR speaks in today's editorial about Israel's criminal attack the day before yesterday on nuclear installations in fraternal Iraq. Under the headline "Praise God for Your Safety, Oh Iraq of the Arabs," the paper says: Good might come out of evil and challenge must be faced with challenge. If it is true that facing up to challenges resurrects nations and makes them shake off their centuries-old lassitude and seek reawakening and progress, then we do not doubt that Israel's attack on the Iraqi nuclear reactor will prompt Iraq and other Arab states to do the impossible to possess the nuclear weapon no matter how long it takes and regardless of the sacrifices.

Israel's treacherous raid has only one meaning, which all Arabs have now deduced: They cannot exist, feel secure or guarantee their future as long as Israel continues to exist. The Israeli operation against Iraq is obviously aimed at preventing the growth of Arab power and at keeping the Arabs weak so Israel can impose humiliating peace on them. But Israel forgets that even with its possession of the nuclear weapon, it cannot force Arab surrender. The island cannot overcome the ocean. This desperate action stems from Israel's feeling that the hour of collapse is approaching. Therefore, it is trying, if it can, to stop the judgment of fate and history.

AD-DUSTUR continues: While we understand the Arab citizen's bitterness over this criminal aggression against fraternal Iraq, we also know that the Iraqi people are maturing, growing, learning and understanding their great pan-Arab role through such challenges. Israel, which has fabricated the Syrian missile crisis, was in fact planning to attack Iraq. Israel knows that the real danger is Iraq, where the Arabism of real action and quiet work, not just propaganda and empty slogans, exists and where military victory over Iran has created self-confidence and fighting capabilities which are bound to be used in the Palestinian arena.

AD-DUSTUR poses a number of questions. It says: We wonder what the U.S. Government's reaction will be now that its planes have been used in this unjustified attack on an Arab country. Will Washington punish Israel for using its planes in the raid on Iraq or will it give Israel more arms? If the latter, what will be the reaction of the oil-producing Arab states, which are supplying oil to Washington at a low price and backing the U.S. economy with assets amounting to tens of billions of dollars. We ask this question so the oil-producing countries will refer it to Washington, and we are awaiting the answer.

The paper adds: Iraq has called an urgent meeting of the Arab League council. The purpose of this meeting is to know the real stands of those fraternal states that are still neutral on Iraq's pan-Arab battle. It is now clear that whoever stands against Iraq is standing with Israel, as His Majesty King Husayn has said. To which side will the spectators go, now that the truth is known and the features of the plot against fraternal Iraq have become clear? One fact must be clear: The arm which reached out to attack Iraq is, in fact, the U.S. arm. The arabs must draw the necessary conclusions from this fact.

AD-DUSTUR concludes: The Arabs must learn many lessons from this grave incident. The most important lesson is that their strength lies in their unity and solidarity and that the Israeli danger is a threat to all of them no matter how distant their countries are. Seeking security by falling on the laps of the major powers is self-deception. Effective, independent Arab power is the only guarantee for our present and future existence. If the Arabs are truly determined to stand honorably to regain Arab honor and repulse the enemies, they can do it.

Al-Qasim recalled that Iraq had signed the treaty on the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons based on its respect for international will and based on a real desire to preserve peace. However, Israel has declined so far to sign this treaty, which proves its hostile intentions against peace and the peoples of the region.

BADRAN ADDRESSES NCC SESSION ON KING'S USSR VISIT

JN081428 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1220 GMT 8 Jun 81

["Text" of speech by Jordanian Prime Minister Mudar Badran in the National Consultative Council's [NCC] new building in Amman on 8 June--recorded]

[Text] Mr Speaker, brother and sister members of the NCC: Before answering the questions and queries posed by His Excellency 'Abd al-Wahhab al-Majali, chairman of your esteemed council's Foreign Affairs Committee, I would like to congratulate the NCC from this rostrum for convening its first session under this dome, which has a great significance. The atmosphere in this new locality might be conducive to discussing many questions and queries. The government welcomes this aid and its aim is always to ensure continued cooperation between the government and the esteemed council.

Jordan, under his exalted majesty, began sponsoring expanded visits to Arab countries before his official visit to the Soviet Union. The visits to the Arab region aimed at discussing several issues, foremost of which are the Israeli provocations and aggression against southern Lebanon and the Palestinian resistance, the continued friction between Syria and Israel over the missile issue and Iraq's war on the eastern flank. Discussions were held with the leaders of Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, the UAE and the Sultanate of Oman. His majesty the king focused on the issues of unity in the Arab ranks, Arab solidarity and depriving the Zionist enemy of the chance to attain new gains at the expense of the Arab nation. In general, the talks that were held during these visits were fruitful and good and were followed by the Arab foreign ministers conference in Tunis. This conference adopted specific resolutions, including support for Arab solidarity.

The visit to the Soviet Union is his majesty's third at the invitation of the Soviet leaders. His majesty responded to the invitation because of the developing friendly relations between Jordan and the Soviet Union, relations that assume a number of forms of cooperation on various levels, both in bilateral relations and in the Arab and international arenas. The latest visit was made at a time when the Middle East was experiencing grave and important events. Thus, this visit acquired special significance. Zionist aggression against the Palestinian people and land, as well as against the Lebanese people and land, is continuing and intensifying in the absence of a just and comprehensive peace due to the persistence of the Zionist enemy and the United States in resorting to the Camp David accords as a basis for reaching a balanced, just and desirable solution.

There is also the Lebanese crisis, with all its repercussions on all the local, regional and international level, and the Iraqi-Iranian war, with its various dimensions and its effects on joint Arab action, on Arab rights and on the Arabs' aspirations for a future of an Arab world that will be secure against the threats of hegemony from any source.

It was natural for the talks to center on these issues, particularly on the Palestinian problem and the Iraqi-Iranian war. We exchanged viewpoints and analyses with the Soviet leaders connected with the Palestinian problem at this stage. We reached identical views with the Soviet leaders in terms of our evaluation of the threats of the continued Zionist aggression, both against the peace and stability of this important region in the world and against world peace. We also reached identical views in terms of the best means of reaching a just and permanent solution for the Middle East crisis based on the Palestinian people's right of self-determination, on establishing their independent state on their own national soil and on realizing their legitimate rights.

As already stated, we agreed with the Soviet leaders that the best means of reaching a collective peace document and comprehensive solution for the Middle East crisis is to convene an international conference, with the participation of all concerned parties, including the PLO, which is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. Hence Jordan's support for the Soviet initiative on such a conference. We agreed with the Soviet leaders that separate solutions contradict the interests of the Arab states, hence the seriousness of the Camp David accords which hampered the peace process.

On the Gulf security issue, we agreed that the Gulf States have the complete right to defend themselves and manage their own resources with full freedom without any external interference or hegemony. On the Lebanese issue, there was an identity of views on the need to solve this issue through peaceful means, on condemning the continued Zionist aggression against Lebanon and the Palestinian resistance, and on Israel's flagrant interference in Lebanon's internal affairs. The two sides affirmed the need for the preservation of Lebanese independence, unity and territorial integrity.

On the international level, both sides reaffirmed a number of principles, prominent among which were the two countries' adherence to the principle that relations among states must be based on equity and equality of rights, noninterference in the internal affairs of others and the renunciation of force in settling disputes. The two sides agreed to cooperate in the international field with the aim of building international economic relations based on equality, justice and the right of all states to have sovereignty over their natural resources. The two sides also affirmed their solidarity in the struggle against racism and colonialism in Africa and their determination to promote the UN activity in all fields.

On bilateral relations, the talks dealt with the means of developing cooperation between the two countries in the various fields, particularly economic and technical. As you already know, Jordan and the Soviet Union are now cooperating in the field of producing energy from shale oil in Jordan. The Soviet Union has experience in this field. We signed an agreement with the Soviet Union which would offer scientific advice on the possibility of utilizing shale oil in producing electrical energy. You also know that the Soviet Union is a superpower in this world of interconnected interests and his majesty's visit to this friendly country was within the framework of our principles and foreign policy which is based on the diversity of options and on cooperation with all the countries in the world on the principle of mutual respect, the noninterference in others' international affairs and the preservation of our Arab character. We have found in the Soviet leadership profound understanding of and high appreciation for these principles, and we have felt their sincere desire for cooperation in the interests of world peace and the stability of this region through reaching a just and comprehensive solution to the Middle East crisis and developing bilateral relations and joint interests.

This visit was extremely successful and was, as his majesty said, his most successful visit to the Soviet Union. The reception and hospitality accorded his majesty the king in this great country was focus of attention for all the Arab and foreign ambassadors in Moscow. This visit was accorded very broad information coverage by all the Soviet information media.

As for the Iraqi-Iranian war, Jordan's views were frank and clear: Any side, irrespective of its nationality, that finances and supports Iran against Iraq is considered to be supporting and financing Israel against the Arabs, because Iraq is defending Arab territory on the eastern flank of the Arab homeland.

There is cooperation and coordination with Israel in the Iranian war against Iraq and Israel is exploiting circumstances now to intervene against fraternal Iraq. Israel has sent its planes several times to participate in bombing vital targets in fraternal Iraq.

We in Jordan side with Iraq with all our potential, but at the same time we hope that this war will end as soon as possible and that Iran will listen to the voice and conscience of the Islamic world organization conference. We also hope that Iran will start negotiations so that, along with Iraq, it will achieve a just and peaceful solution of this issue, according to which Iraq's national rights will be regained. Under no circumstances will it be possible for this war to go on so that Israel and the Zionist enemy, the enemy of the Arabs, the Islamic world and the nonaligned world, would benefit from it. Regrettably, I can say that, had it not been for U.S. long-range sophisticated weapons, there would have been no tragedies befalling the Arab nation by the hand of the Zionist enemy.

This visit was followed by the Islamic Conference foreign ministers meeting in Baghdad. The conference worked to bring about the practical translation of all the resolutions that were adopted by the Islamic summit conference in At-Ta'if. For example, the conference discussed the adopted resolutions. The conference also adopted measures to implement the At-Ta'if summit's resolutions. An article was added to these resolutions on Israel's attempts to big a canal linking the Dead Sea and the Mediterranean Sea. The Islamic Conference adopted resolutions on this issue on the various levels and worked in the various international bodies to prevent the digging of this canal, for it entails a new dir ct attack on the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. It also implies Israel's refusal to withdraw from the territories it occupied in 1967 because it will use a part of the Gaza Strip for this canal.

This is, in brief, the government's answer to the queries posed by his excellency the chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee.

TUNISIAN FOREIGN MINISTER RECEIVED BY BADRAN

JN071219 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 7 Jun 81

[Text] Amman--Prime Minister Mudar Badran received in his office today Tunisian Foreign Affairs Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi. Discussion dealt with the current political situation in the region on the Arab and international levels, bilateral relations and ways of strengthening cooperation between the two fraternal countries.

Prime Minister Mudar Badran reviewed with the guest minister the progress of the talks currently underway between the Tunisian delegation and the competent parties within the framework of the delegation's visit to Jordan.

The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim and the Tunisian ambassador in Amman.

Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim had reviewed with the guest minister bilateral relations in all spheres.

AL-WAZZAN STATEMENT ON ISRAELI ATTACK ON IRAQ

NC091141 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 9 Jun 81

[Text] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan, commenting on the Israeli aggression on Iraq, has said:

The Israeli aggression deep inside the Arab territory of fraternal Iraq, which was aimed at the Iraqi nuclear reactor, denotes the real danger facing the Arabs throughout the Arab homeland.

He added: Israel's persistent interference in the Lebanese situation through its occupation of part of our country; its savage attacks causing destruction and dispersion and its plotting in various ways and means against Lebanon's territorial integrity and the unity of its people; the Arab failure to estimate the danger of such interference and tackle it in a serious, firm and decisive way as part of the united Arab confrontation of the Zionist danger, which is an inseperable and complementary part of the dangers threatening the Arab homeland--all of these have encouraged Israel to persist in its aggressive policy, in seeking to expand the Lebanese arena to other Arab arenas, in dominating the resources of the Arab nation and in striking at the nation's various energies for progress, development and control of its willpower and aspirations.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan added: While we denounce this flagrant aggression, which is an inseperable part of the aggression to which we are daily being subjected in Lebanon at the hands of the Israeli enemy, we call fo. confronting the enemy in various fields and at various levels with the seriousness and decisiveness it deserves. We also draw the attention of the international community which is interested in fighting aggression and terrorism to the seriousness of this new type of international terrorism being carried out by a UN member state, thereby consecrating a broad and grave terrorist act to such a degree that it has affected the international community's security.

MATERIALS ON ACTIVITIES OF FOLLOWUP COMMITTEE

Report on Meetings

JN081314 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Text] The Arab followup committee resumed its meetings in Bayt ad-Din Palace at 1045 today under President Ilyas Sarkis. It has been learned that the committee will assess the results of yesterday's meetings with the various Lebanese sides and political elements. The committee is expected to conclude its work today and issue its final resolutions and recommendations.

Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Saudi foreign minister and member of the followup committee, telephoned Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, this morning during which the tasks of the followup committee were reviewed. Reports have circulated that Mr 'Arafat may arrive in Bayt ad-Din and meet with the Arab followup committee members.

At 0930 today, the Arab followup committee members met with Zahlah Ministers Ilyas al-Hirawi, Joseph Abu Khatir and Joseph Skat. Following the meeting, Minister al-Hirawi stated that the committee listened to their viewpoints on the situation in the city of Zahlah and the need to deal with this situation.

At 0100 today, the Arab followup committee members received Amal Leader Nabih Barre. Following the meeting, he said: We explained to the Arab ministers that it is necessary to return to the unified Lebanon, as we have often stated. However, for such a Lebanon to materialize, all relations with the Israeli enemy must be severed and a unified Arab strategy laid down to confront the Israeli onslaught in Lebanon, particularly in the south.

He added: We have declared the Amal Movement's firm stand with regard to its complete readiness to participate in the accord process if the following condition is met: severing relations with Israel. Then, it is necessary to sit together to discuss the injustices to the deprived sectors in Lebanon as a result of the absence of real protection on the border, particularly with respect to the citizens of the south. We stress that this situation should be ended through eliminating political sectarianism and guaranteeing a unified strategy. However, as I stated before, the condition for this is to sever relations with Israel and proceed along with accord from the premises declared by the president last year.

In conclusion, he said: We have observed a perceptible optimism of the Arab ministers and we hope that this will reflect on reality, since the Lebanese citizen now pins hopes on this Arab hope, which--I'm afraid--is the last hope.

At 2330 yesterday, the Arab followup committee members received at Bayt ad-Din Palace the Lebanese National Movement delegation under Walid Junblatt. The delegation also comprises In'am Ra'd, 'Asim Qansuh, Tawfiq Sultan, Samir Sabbagh and Albert Mansur. In a statement at the end of the meeting, Mr Junblatt said: The National Movement clarified to the follow up committee the basic principles according to which the Lebanese can reach a political solution. Primary among these principles is the need to denounce dealings with Israel, which is the main condition for any security or reconciliation move.

Zahlah Ministers Comments

NC081329 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Excerpts] This morning the followup committee members held a meeting with the parties concerned in Lebanon. Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah and Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi met at 0920 with Zahlah Ministers Joseph Skaf, Joseph Abu Khatir and Ilyas al-Hirawi. The meeting lasted until 1030.

Asked about the answers they received, Minister al-Hirawi said: We did not wait for the Arab followup committee to answer us. We expounded on our issue, and they told us to expect good news.

Minister Skaf said: We are expecting good news from the meetings of the Arab followup committee, which is meeting at the foreign ministers level. We also hope that these meetings will achieve positive results that will extricate Lebanon from its painful ordeal.

The ties of the followup committee members with various Lebanese parties will actually help to bring about a rapprochement. He added: We particularly focused on the situation in Zahlah and reviewed the painful conditions and the tragedy of the people there. We called on the committee members to act to find a comprehensive solution that will prevent a recurrence of what has happened in our city. We told them that the Al-Biqa' area will remain a symbol of love and fraternity.

Contact With Franjiyah

NC081831 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Text] Within the framework of the contacts the Arab followup committee is holding with Lebanese political officials, Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah has telephoned former President Sulayman Franjiyah in Zgharta on behalf of the followup committee. This was because the committee was unable to visit Franjiyah in Zgharta in view of its extremely busy schedule plus the fact that the committee members must leave Lebanon tonight.

Sarkis Banquet Address

NC090807 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 9 Jun 81

[Excerpts] Speaking at Al-Mukhtarah, President Ilyas Sarkis affirmed the need to restore Lebanon as the homeland of accord, love and forbearance. President Sarkis said: It pleases me today to respond to a kind invitation by a noble friend. For 20 years I had friendly and cordial relations with his father, the late Kamal Bey Junblatt. It pleases me that this occasion has given me the opportunity to meet with His Eminence Shaykh 'Aql, men of religion and distinguished personages of Ash-Shuf.

The president said: We hope that with the cooperation of our brothers present here today at this banquet the dark clouds will clear away and Lebanon will again, as before, be a homeland of accord, love and forbearance and will regain its bright and serene image.

The president said: The blood that irrigated this homeland in its defense and the sweat that watered the land to preserve it call upon us to restore Lebanon's bright image, which we and the world have lost. I am confident that the Lebanese people's intelligence and wisdom will ultimately triumph and we will renounce hatred and division replacing them with accord and love. Let us all unite to arrive at this sublime goal. The people of Ash-Shuf are worthy of leading the march, because Lebanon is in dire need of such a march.

President Sarkis and members of the Arab followup committee were the guests at a luncheon given by Walid Junblatt.

Final Statement

NC082110 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Text] This evening at 1915 [1715 GMT] the Arab followup committee held its concluding session at the Bayt ad-Din Palace under the chairmanship of President Ilyas Sarkis and in the attendance of Prime Minister Shafiq al-Qazzan, Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus, the foreign ministers of Syria, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait and the Arab League's secretary general. The meeting continued until 2100, following which the committee issued the following concluding statement:

In implementation of the Arab League's resolution during its extraordinary session held in Tunis last May, and in response to his excellency the president of Lebanon, Ilyas Sarkis, the Arab followup committee met on June 7 and 8 in the Bayt ad-Din Palace. The committee met under his excellency's chairmanship and in the attendance of the Arab League's secretary general, Chedli Klibi; Saudi Arabia's foreign minister, His Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal; Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and foreign minister, His Excellency Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah; and his excellency the Syrian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. Also attending the committee's meetings were His Excellency Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and his excellency the deputy prime minister and foreign and expatriates minister, Fu'ad Butrus.

His Excellency President Ilyas Sarkis outlined the broad concepts of the committee's tasks. Following extensive debates dealing with the crisis that Lebanon is undergoing, which threatens its unity, sovereignty and entity, and the difficulties that prevented the implementation of the earlier Arab resolutions; after reviewing the possible tragic outcome of the current security conditions and the urgent need to tackle these conditions; after discussing the practical means that might make it possible to embark on the march for national accord and on bolstering the legal authority and its institutions; and as a result of the contacts and meetings made by the committee to determine the conditions that should be provided to create the suitable atmosphere for the establishment of a national accord--the committee has found it fit to determine the priorities that it drew up in this respect.

The committee has noted the adherance of all parties to a cease-fire throughout the territory of Lebanon. The committee has decided to continue its contacts to pave the way for the convocation of another meeting to complete its mission in Bayt ad-Din on Saturday, July 4, provided it is preceded by a preparatory meeting at the foreign ministers' level, to include the Arab League's secretary general, which will be held in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on Tuesday, June 23.

VOL REPORTS INCIDENTS IN SYRIA, IRAQ-SYRIA BORDER

NC081717 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Text] We have received information that an Iraqi patrol on the Iraqi-Syrian border infiltrated 10 kms into Syrian territory in Al-Hasakah Governorate and blew up an army post in the locality of [Tall Kusha], killing its elements.

Clashes between Syrian Special Forces and the Muslim Brotherhood continue. A major force of the Special Forces besieged the localities of Al-Kallasah and Dar an-Nayrab and imposed a curfew to search the houses. The force, however, was confronted with handgrenades, which killed and injured a number of soldiers.

On the 'Ajaj-'Ishrin road, the Muslim Brotherhood cut the main highway. Accordingly, the Syrian Army landed soldiers from helicopters in both towns. A bloody clash ensued and left several people killed on both sides.

At 2230 yesterday, Sunday, a massive explosion occurred in a bus station in Ad-Dawudiyah, injuring several people. In the Al-Jamayili locality, the Syrian Army encircled the house of Engineer Muhammad Hijazi and arrested three of his students on suspicion of being Muslim Brotherhood members. Their fate is not known.

On the Aleppo-Latakia road roadblocks are manned by progovernment civilians who are searching the passers-by and checking their identity cards. A great number of people are leaving Hamah for the town of Al-Mahrabah.

FATAH SAID FORMING GROUP LIKE 'BLACK SEPTEMBER'

NC081803 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon correspondent has learned that the Fatah organization plans to form an organization similar to the "Black September" organization; the organization will be led by Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf]. The idea to create this organization came from Fatah's charges that Fatah dissident Abu Nidal, who is living in Iraq, was behind the assassination of several Fatah organization members.

FOREIGN MINISTRY 'SOURCE' ON ISRAELI RAID ON IRAQ

JN081938 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1858 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Text] A responsible source at the Foreign Ministry has stated the following:

The Syrian Arab Republic was not taken by surprise by the criminal operation suffused with treachery and rancor which was carried out by the Israeli Air Force against the Iraqi center for generating nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

Syria has always warned that Israel's premediated aggressive intentions are not only aimed at the Palestinian, Lebanese and Syrian peoples but also at the Arab nation at large. These intentions are being fed by Israel's designs on controlling the area by using the hellish war machine supplied to it by the United States, which does not care about the way Israel is using this machine in lauching aggression against the Arab nation's security and future and in constituting a strong barrier to the Arab nation's development and progress. The United States is even seeking to politically cover up these blatant attacks.

This terrorist criminal act, which constitutes a violation of basis international rights and law, is a warning to the Arabs in particular and to the world at large, that all should be alert to the premeditated acts of the Zionist entity and its supporters aimed at causing dismemberment and destruction to the Middle East area and at exposing world peace to the gravest dangers in order to satisfy its racist rancor, pave the way for oppressive hegemony and eliminate the last mask, from behind which it is claiming to be committed to international law and human rights.

Syria, which was warned on may occasions against the Zionist entity's designs and its constant aggressive nature, which is the source of every danger to the Arab nation, to the safety of the area and to world peace, urges world public opinion to condemn and denounce the aggressor's arrogance. Syria also urges the peace- and justice-loving forces to announce in words and deeds their support for the just Arab cause and their stand against the Israeli aggression, occupation and expansion at the expense of the Arab people's security, progress and independence and of world peace and security.

TISHRIN VIEWS ISRAELI RAID ON IRAQI REACTOR

JN090713 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 9 Jun 81

[From the Press Review]

[Text] In its column "Behind the News" under the headline "Lessons of the New Israeli Crime," TISHRIN says: Last Sunday, U.S.-made Israeli warplanes violated the sanctity of Arab airspace and raided the Iraqi nuclear reactor being built near Baghdad. The Israeli Government admitted this treacherous aggression in official statements, and Menahem Begin described it as an act of self-defense.

Before discussing this criminal Israeli attack, two remarks should be made: First, Iraq had stressed that the nuclear reactor being built in cooperation with France would be used for peaceful purposes. Second, Israel has atomic reactors in Dimona, the first built with French assistance. Information available in international circles and the world press indicates that Israel is using these atomic reactors and research for military purposes. Some reports go so far as to say that Israel has nuclear bombs. It is also known that Israel refused to join the international treaty on the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons.

In light of these two remarks, it seems that it is the Arab side which is in need of self-defense and that it is the Israeli side which has introduced nuclear concerns in the Middle East. It is Israel which is occupying all of Palestine, denying the Palestinian people's national and natural rights, waging genocide against them and occupying territories of three Arab states.

It is Israel which has not been satisfied with its crimes to date. It has recently fabricated the so-called Syrian missile crisis in Lebanon, pushing the region to the brink of war and making possible a flareup at any moment.

The serious Israeli air raid on Iraqi soil yesterday [as heard] confirms the racist Zionist entity's aggressive nature and demonstrates to the world at large the grave danger which Israel's policy poses to peace and security, international law and international charters, treaties, norms and ethics not only in the Middle East but in the world at large.

TISHRIN adds: Israel's rulers--who keep clamoring against terrorism whenever a Palestinian, displaced from his homeland and deprived of all rights, carries out an operation against the Israeli occupation of his homeland--have made terrorism a state policy, violation of the UN Charter a daily practice and resort to force the best method for dealing with others. Everything that has happened in the past weeks confirms beyond any doubt that the Arab nation's enemy is the racist Zionist entity, which is supported by the United States, and that the Arabs' pan-Arab battle is in Palestine and against the racist Zionist entity, which does not stop expanding and which wants to decide what is permissible and what is not inside the Arab countries. It also confirms that this battle should always be the top pan-Arab priority in the Arab homeland.

The aggressive crime against Iraqi soil shows the entire world the responsibility that the United States shoulders for Israel's policy, acts of aggression, violation of international laws and charters, occupation of Arab land and threat to peace and security. U.S. military aid to Israel is not for self-defense. It is to enable Israel to commit aggression and crimes and threaten the Arab countries' security and welfare. It is U.S.-made planes which are killing women, children and the elderly in Lebanon and which have raided Iraqi territory. It is with U.S. arms that Israel is threatening to ignite flames of war in the Middle East.

Through its leader, Hafiz al-Asad, Syria has always called on all the Arabs to channel their energies and potentials to their pan-Arab battle in Palestine and to seek to establish a strategic balance with the enemy so that the aggressors will not go unpunished and so that Arab airspace, land and waters do not remain fields open to the belligerence of the adventurous Zionist outlaws. Everything that has happened in the arena to date gives President al-Asad's call an important and persistent immediacy and great pan-Arab significance and power of persuasion.

AL-BA'TH COMMENTS ON HABIB'S COMING MIDEAST TOUR

JN081743 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Text] The newspaper AL-BA'TH spoke about the new visit Philip Habib, U.S. president's envoy to the region, will make to the region and about the possibilities of success and failure facing this tour. AL-BA'TH said that, if Washington wants its envoy's mission to succeed in warding off a big explosion, it must put pressure on its ally Begin to stop the war of attrition he is imposing on Lebanon and the Palestinian revolution. Begin has to stop interfering in Lebanon's affairs. Damascus has nothing to say to the U.S. envoy other than the stand and decision it has explained, which takes no bargaining. The issue touches Arab security. Either Israel imposes its hegemony and will over the region or the trend of strategic steadfastness shouldered by Syria triumphs. There is no place for a middle-of-the-road solution in either case.

ARAB FOREIGN MINISTERS RETURN FROM LEBANON

JN082333 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2315 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Excerpt] Damascus--'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs; His Highness Sa'ud al-Faysal. Saudi minister of foreign affairs; and Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah returned to Damascus from Bayt ad-Din today after participating in the 2-day meetings of the Arab followup committee.

AIR FORCE ATTACKS NUCLEAR PLANT NEAR BAGHDAD

Government Announcement

TA081412 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Text] Here is a special announcement of the Government of Israel:

Yesterday the Israeli Air Force set out to attack the Osirak nuclear reactor, which is near Baghdad. Our pilots fulfilled their assignment in its entirety. The reactor has been completely destroyed. All our planes returned safely to their base.

The government sees it to be its duty to explain to the informed public why it decided on this special operation: For a long time we have been watching the setting up of the Osirak atomic reactor with grave concern. Sources whose reliability cannot be in doubt have informed us that the reactor is meant, despite its camouflage, to produce atomic bombs. The target for these bombs was Israel. This has been announced explicitly by the ruler of Iraq.

After the Iranians had at the time hit the reactor slightly, Saddam Husayn noted that the Iranians' attack was useless, since the reactor was being installed solely against Israel. The atomic bombs that this reactor would have been able to produce, be it from enriched uranium or from plutonium, would have been of the type of bomb that was dropped on Hiroshima. Thus, a danger to the existence of the Israeli nation had been created.

From most reliable sources again, we have been informed of two dates for the completion of the reactor and its activation: one, the beginning of July 1981; the second, the beginning of September this year. Within a short time the Iraqi reactor would be activated and hot. Under such circumstances, no Israeli government could have decided on the bombing of the reactor. Its bombing would have caused a huge deadly radioactive wave in the direction of Baghdad, and its innocent residents would have been hit. We would therefore, have had to look on passively at the process of producing atomic bombs in Iraq, whose dictator would not have the slightest hesitation in dropping them on Israel and concentrations of its population, hence, the Government of Israel decided to act without further delay to ensure our nation's security.

The planning was meticulous, the operation had been set for Sunday [7 June] on the assumption that from 100 to 150 foreign experts who were working on the reactor would not be there on the Christian Sabbath. This assumption proved to be right. No foreign expert has been hit.

Two European governments aided the Iraqi dictator, in return for oil, in the production of nuclear weapons. We call on them again to cease this horrible inhuman act. We shall under no circumstances allow the enemy to develop weapons of annihilation against our nation. We shall defend the citizens of Israel at the propitious time with every means at our disposal.

Additional Details on Raid

TA081636 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1625 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Text] Here is the IDF radio editorial room: The air force attack was executed in the afternoon. This was said by Cabinet Secretary Arye Na'or to the AP. Na'or said the approval for the Israeli Air Force operation was granted some time previously and that the subject had not at all been raised at yesterday's Cabinet session, even though the attack was executed some hours after the conclusion of the session, in the afternoon. The Cabinet secretary said the prime minister did not mention the plan to attack the reactor in his recent meeting with President as-Sadat in Ofira.

Begin Interview on Attack

TA081832 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1805 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Prime Minister Menahem Begin interview with Shim'on Schiffer--live]

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, when was the decision made to attack the nuclear reactor in Iraq and what were the Cabinet's considerations in that matter?

[Answer] The decision to attack Iraq's nuclear reactor, which is intended to produce atomic bombs, was adopted many months ago. But there were hindrances, there were also various considerations and there were a number of delays, until we arrived at a situation where it was clear to us that if we did not act now we might perhaps miss the propitious time. That is to say, either in July or in September this reactor, according to the reliable information we had received, would be, as one puts it, hot. In such circumstances, no Israeli Government could have--our Cabinet wouldn't have--adopted a decision to bomb the reactor, because it would have been torn open and deadly radioactivity would have flooded the city of Baghdad and it would have hit tens, perhaps hundreds thousands of innocent men, women and children. And we are Jews and we would by no means have adopted such a decision under conditions that I have described. This means that this was a matter of either a month or 6 weeks or 3 months. What is the difference? And then we would have had to stand by passively, from afar, and know that there were being produced atomic weapons of the type that had been dropped on Hiroshima at the end of World War II, and weapons that caused hundreds of thousands of people to be hit. With three, four or five such atomic bombs, Saddam Husayn, an incomparably cruel person who, with his own hands, murdered his best friends to seize control of Iraq, wouldn't have the slightest hesitation to drop these bombs on concentrations of our population and he could liquidate the country--certainly its infrastructure, certainly a better part of its army. Wasn't he standing near Abadan and saying there: This is the beginning of the march on Yafa and Jerusalem. He is going to Abadan, you understand, and he is saying that that is the beginning of the march. He wants to come up to Yafa. And how could he have arrived there. But we assumed, probably, that was his ambition: He would set up a reactor, he would develop an atomic bomb, and no Arab country had an atomic bomb, and he would either destroy Israel with the help of the atomic bombs, or would threaten us and demand surrender from us.

This action was, in fact, an action of saving souls--I don't even know how many of them. I have been living with this issue for 2 years already. I'd like to say to the Israeli nation: Would that none of you have such an experience as long as he lives. Sometimes I would go out and meet a group of children. They would surround me in a circle. I would ask them all sorts of perinent questions, and they would ask me questions. And all of a sudden an idea would strike me: God Almighty, what would happen to these children? They are now 7 or 8 years old. What will happen when they are 10 or 12 years old? The atomic bomb is liable to fall on them. What will their fate be? And I am not denying this: The difficulties were many, the exertions were very difficult among all my colleagues. Until we adopted the decision, with absolute firmness. We do not fear any reaction in the world. I say this with all candor.

In informed the U.S. ambassador last night. I sent a letter today to President Reagan, and the letter is already in the hands of the ambassador, and he is already asking to meet with President Reagan to deliver the letter, and we shall face the furious reactions of anyone. We had to act here in order to ensure the existence and security of Israel's nation in its homeland.

[Question] Perhaps, we shall refer to the issue of the reactions. Egypt has already defined the bombardment of the reactor by Israel as a serious crime. In your meeting with Egyptian President as-Sadat, did you, sir, hint at this possibility? Do you not fear that the Israeli bombardment might damage the relations between the two countries?

[Answer] Egypt did not make an [official] announcement, but General 'Ali made an announcement. According to my experience, I can tell you: You must make the distinction between an authoritative Egyptian announcement--that is, an announcement issued by President as-Sadat--and announcements made by his advisers. You will see in the next few days that Egypt may hold a different position, maybe, I do not know.

You asked me a concrete question, however, and I must answer it. I did not say anything to President as-Sadat; he did not know anything about this operation and its timing. I was not allowed to tell him; it was one of the best kept military secrets. Thank God there were no leaks. Therefore, I find very strange and weird the claim of various members of the opposition asking why I did not tell the Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee in advance about this operation. Has there ever been such a case in any country? Twenty-two Knesset members who are used to this [to leaking information] almost as if to make a living out of it--could I have revealed such a secret to them? Well, President as-Sadat did not know anything. However, I did know about it, that is true. What is the connection? We had many things to arrange and we arranged them. This is the permanent peace process that will probably continue. If the Americans today say that they did not know about it in advance, I confirm this; I did not tell them anything. A posteriori, last night, after the boys had returned home. I called U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis and I told him: I herewith inform you that our air force has destroyed the Osirak nuclear reactor near Baghdad and all these wonderful boys to whom the Israeli people owe an unlimited debt returned safely to their base.

[Question] With your permission, let us go back to the various considerations. A few months ago, French experts issued a report which was published by LE MONDE determining that the nuclear reactor in Iraq was designed for research purposes and it did not have any military purposes.

[Answer] This is an altogether unreliable report. We had information from the most reliable sources. For 2 years we exerted much effort so that France would pull out of this business but it did not. The French experts fled after the Iranian bombardment of the reactor. However, they returned. So we had to rely on the information in our possession, and we had information that this reactor was intended for developing nuclear weapons or atomic bombs that would be directed against the State of Israel and its population.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, when you were about to make this decision together with your colleagues, did you take into account the possible consequences, for instance, from the viewpoint of the Arab world that this could bring about the unification of the Arab world and it might bring about extreme actions on the part of Baghdad against Israel?

[Answer] Yes, I have already referred to the reactions. I must take care of the Israeli people, of the Israeli children, the Israeli girls, the Israeli women, of the Israeli citizens. Any other factor is secondary. We took into account all the considerations. The decisive consideration was to guarantee the well-being and future of the Israeli people in Eretz Yisra'el. Therefore, whoever wants to be smart and pose me questions regarding Iraq, Arab unity and the like--there is no limit to such questions. The government is composed of people who know the content of the question to no less than the honorable interpellants. However, this does not have any value or significance. We had to see to it that the Israeli people live in Eretz Yisra'el. Their life was in real danger, not in immediate danger but a people do not live on a timespan of 3 or 4 years. As I said before, had the reactor begun functioning and become hot, we would not have been able to touch it. Therefore, this was the last minute for carrying out the operation.

[Question] Why did Israel announce the bombardment of the reactor first?

[Begin--interrupting] Why don't you ask whether Israel made the announcement first. You try to determine an unfounded fact. At 1430 [1230 GMT] I received a phone call from my aide-de-camp who told me that at 1400 [1200 GMT] Amman radio had announced that Israeli pilots bombed the Osirak reactor near Baghdad. Then, I issued the instruction to publish the government's announcement, after Jordan had issued its announcement and not before. We kept silent for almost 24 hours. So long as no publication was issued we did not publish anything and we could have waited another night. However, when Amman made the announcement we had to issue our announcement lest we be anticipated by evildoers who would try to spread lies before we had our say.

It happened during the period of retaliation [in the 1950's]. We kept quiet and lies were spread by the Arab countries, subsequently denouncing the State of Israel and so on. We did not have to wait for another announcement. Jordan made its announcement at 1400. I asked that the announcement be aired on the radio at 1500 [1300 GMT]. However, Uri [Porat, prime minister's adviser on communications] spoke with the radio and delivered the government's announcement but they did not announce it at 1500. I was listening and I wondered: Your friend and my nephew 'Imanu'el [not further identified] called me and said: Uncle, is it true? I asked him: Why did you not broadcast the report at 1500? Of course it is true. He said: we could not transmit it. How could we identify the voice of Uri Porat? We were not sure, and, therefore, the report was only carried at 1600 [1400 GMT] and since 1600 it has been broadcast several times.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, this is the last question. Did you consult any Israeli public figures or people outside the government on this issue?

[Answer] I did not consult anybody and it was not my duty to do so. A few months ago I told Mr Shim'on Peres about it. He did not express either agreement or opposition. He was given this report for his information. About 3 or 4 weeks ago I received a letter from Mr Shim'on Peres in which he expressed his view that, in his opinion, it was not desirable to carry out this operation. This was his view; the government decided otherwise. The government conducts the affairs of the state rather than Shim'on Peres or any other person in the opposition.

I want to laud the wonderful reaction of MK Yitzhaq Rabin. He did not go into any provocations or foolish accusations. He said: All due respect to the air force; it carried out a brave action.

I want to conclude the interview with you with these words: There have never been such youths as our pilots. The famous statement made by Churchill--we are in the same situation as after Dunkirk, thank God we are very strong. However, Churchill's saying that never have so many owed so much to so few applies now to the Israeli Air Force. There is nobody like them. All due respect to them. As the chief of staff told me this morning: the operation was 100 percent and not even 1 percent less.

[Schiffer] Mr Prime Minister, I thank you very much.

CABINET DISCUSSIONS OF RAID PREPARATIONS REPORTED

TA090551 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 9 Jun 81

[Text] The preparations, discussions and the gathering of information about the Iraqi nuclear reactor lasted for over a year. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer this morning discloses the processes leading to the decision to destroy the reactor. Following hesitations and long debates and with the objection of several senior ministers to the operation, the decision was made to destroy the nuclear reactor near Baghdad.

[Schiffer--live] When the air force pilots reported the completion of the operation on Sunday night, those present at the prime minister's residence expressed their relief. Shortly before the departure of the air force planes for their mission, a secret session of the Cabinet plenum was convoked at Menahem Begin's residence in Jerusalem. The prime minister reported to the ministers on the expected operation. Consequently, long days of debates and hesitations came to an end.

Over a year ago, the Cabinet decided to destroy the Iraqi nuclear reactor. A high-level government source last night told me: This was one of the most difficult decisions ever taken by any government in Israel. This was also the most serious danger that Israel faced since the establishment of the state.

The decision was not made easily. The Cabinet appointed a reduced ministerial team that was supposed to decide on the timing of the operation. The operation was delayed several times. Ministers who participated in the debates from time to time changed their positions. Ministers Yadin, Burg, Hammer, Aridor and Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Tzipori were opposed to the operation. About 3 weeks ago minister Ari'el Sharon submitted a letter of resignation to the prime minister because of the delay in the implementation of the mission to destroy the reactor. Professor Yadin accused Sharon of adopting unorthodox means to achieve his purposes. In any case, the prime minister, Ari'el Sharon and the chief of staff were the three men who all the time pushed for the destruction of the Iraqi reactor. A few days ago information arrived that the Iraqis indeed intended to fabricate atomic bombs in the reactor in the near future.

In the meantime, the preparations continued. It was necessary to overcome many military problems: The flying range of the planes, the refueling on the way, the flying over northern Saudi Arabia and so on and so forth. There were also fears about world reaction. It was impossible to create [sympathetic] international public opinion in advance lest the secret be revealed. The hesitiations in the ministerial committee for security affairs heightened with the eruption of the missile crisis with the Syrians in Lebanon. Israel was faced with two urgent missions: the reactor in Iraq and the Syrian missiles. The decision was made to destroy the reactor out of belief that the operation would constitute a signal to the Syrians that Israel means to defend its security.

The Americans learned about the operation with surprise and total astonishment. The prime minister called the U.S. ambassador to Israel on the eve of the Pentecost holiday [7 June] and informed him about the operation. Western sources last night told me that the United States may make do with a denunciation of Israel and nothing else. Many personalities in Washington were delighted upon hearing the news, the Western sources said. The United States received information confirming Israel's information about the Iraqis' intention to produce nuclear bombs. Israel will now launch an information campaign in the world in order to prove to Israel's friends that there was no other choice but to destroy the threatening reactor.

Sharon Threat Denied

TA090639 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 9 Jun 81

[Text] It has been reported from the prime minister's office that the agriculture minister did not submit a letter of resignation at any stage of the debates about the operation [against the nuclear reactor in Iraq].

DETAILED PREPARATIONS FOR IRAQ RAID DESCRIBED

TA090618 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 9 Jun 81

[Report by military correspondent Shmu'el Tal--live]

[Text] The Iraqi nuclear reactor is a round, high building, topped by a dome. Around the reactor, there are buildings, a tower, and several chimneys. Next to it is an elongated building several stories high.

After the reactor was attacked by Iran toward the end of 1980, the Iraqi's drew their lessons and realized that the reactor was exposed and very vulnerable. Since then they have surrounded it with batteries of antiaircraft missiles and with other antiaircraft systems. There is no doubt that the air force pilots had a difficult mission, made none the easier by the fact that they had to fly over other Arab countries. There was the risk that Jordan might blow the whistle on the penetration of the Israeli Air Force planes into its territory and the Iraqis would be ready for them. However, it has now emerged that the air force planes made their way to the targets and back without any disruption. They did not run into any planes and they succeeded in evading many alert systems and weapons systems.

The operation itself lasted a few minutes. The bombing was quite accurate and it resulted from meticulous preparations and innumerable exercises to learn all the details of the plan through the use of a model for training. At the end of the operation there was a debriefing at one of the air force bases where the planes landed. The pilots met with air force commander and the chief of staff. Maj Gen David 'Ivri later delivered an official letter to the pilots congratulating them on the perfect completion of the operation.

OPPOSITION REACTION TO AIR FORCE RAID ON IRAQ

Peres, Rabin Remarks

TA081628 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Text] Shim'on Peres, who is in Elat, is at the moment receiving a report from his aides on the subject of the attack on the reactor near Baghdad. He told our correspondent in Elat that only after he has learned the subject, will he release his reaction.
MK Yitzhaq Rabin expressed profound appreciation to the air force pilots and to the IDF on the daring operation, as he put it, and congratulated them heartily. However, he refused to react, at this stage, to our correspondent Asher Schwartz' question about the timing of the operation. According to him, he is waiting to hear a full report on the air force attack in the Knesset Security and Foreign Affairs Committee. MK Rabin requests the committee be urgently convened for this purpose as early as tomorrow.

Peres Explanation

TA082116 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Text] MK Shim'on Peres disclosed this evening that he learned several weeks ago of the intention to bomb the Iraqi nuclear reactor on 10 May, the day of general elections in France. Hence, he wrote to the prime minister that in his view this timing was very bad. Shim'on Peres related this to our correspondent in Elat, Eytan Rabin. He refused to react to the prime minister's statement alleging that in the letter he had written that it was undesirable to execute the operation in Iraq. Mr Peres said he will refer to the matter at the discussion that is to take place tomorrow in the Knesset Security and Foreign Relations Committee.

Resentment of MK's

TA081529 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Text] Opposition members in the Knesset Security and Foreign Affairs Committee voiced resentment about the fact that the committee or any other Knesset body had not been advised beforehand on the bombing of the nuclear reactor near Baghdad. Those same opposition representatives have also voiced surprise to our correspondent Amnon Nadav that the government of Israel saw fit to be first to disclose the bombing, before this became known from any other source. Circles close to the prime minister say that opposition Chairman Shim'on Peres had been informed of the plan of the attack.

Other Reaction

TA081657 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1605 GMT 8 Jun 81

[From special newsreel on Israel's attack against the nuclear reactor in Iraq]

[Text] [Announcer] We will now hear the reaction of MK Hayim Bar-Lev of the Alignment as reported to our correspondent Ammon Nadav.

[Begin Bar-Lev recording] The opposition was not at all let in on the picture and this is certainly a very weird thing, since this is still a very large scale operation which carries many implications. It would have been appropriate to let the opposition in on the picture. Since we were not let in on the picture, I do not think I can react right now. [end recording]

[Announcer] This was Bar-Lev's reaction not to react. And this is what we heard from MK Moshe Dayan a short time ago:

[Begin Dayan recording] This issue of the bombing of the nuclear reactor in Baghdad, in my opinion, should be discussed by the Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee rather than in public rallies, and certainly not in elections rallies--neither by the press nor by the radio or the television, but rather by the authoritative and closed forum of tne Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee after the government has presented it with all the considerations and military, scientific and political information concerning this issue. In my opinion, only in this forum, should the various members express their opinion. In any case, I am not ready to say anything in public regarding this issue. [end recording]

[Announcer] It should be added at this point that sources close to Prime Minister Menahem Begin have said that the head of the opposition, MK Shim'on Peres, received a report in advance on the Israeli Air Force operation. To sum up this, MK Abba Eban told us:

[Begin Eban recording] A large mission was imposed on the IDF and especially on the air force, and they carried out the tasks imposed on them with excellent skill and with courage. Regarding the political decision, the Alignment faction in the Knesset will widely air its view. However, at this stage I must point out that the fundamental, customary and required move would have been to submit such an operation to a decision after 30 June, when there is a government in Israel enjoying the mandate for the future, a government that will be able to cope with all the implications of such an operation. [end recording]

WEST BANK REACTION TO BOMBING OF NUCLEAR REACTOR

TA090651 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2250 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Text] Nabulus, 8 Jun--The inhabitants of Judaea and Samaria were astonished at hearing the news about the bombing and destruction of the Iraqi nuclear reactor. They avidly listened to Arab radio broadcasts, mainly to quotations of the Iraqi official announcement that Israeli Air Force planes had indeed destroyed the nuclear reactor. Bassam ash-Shak'ah issued an announcement calling the Israeli attack "a continuation of the fascist policy." He called on the Arab world to unite since "only in this way will it be possible to overcome Israel." Other public figures, including Tulkarm Mayor Hilmi Hanun, denounced the attack. More moderate public figures refused to comment.

In an editorial to be published on 9 June, the east Jerusalem paper ASH-SHA'B refers to the destruction of the reactor and calls for immediately putting an end to the war between Iraq and Iran in order to unite the Arabs. Other east Jerusalem papers have so far abstained from issuing any comments and merely mentioned the details of the operation in their headlines, citing the Israeli and Iraqi official announcements and the reactions in the Arab world.

JORDAN'S BADRAN CHARGES IRAN-ISRAEL COMPLICITY

TA081510 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Text] Jordanian Prime Minister Mudar Badran has accused Iran of being in on the Israeli attack on the nuclear plant near Baghdad. In a furious speech at the parliament in Amman, the Jordanian prime minister claimed that the Israeli Air Force planes were launched at the Iraqi plant with Iran's knowledge, through coordination with it and in full cooperation. The IRAQI NEWS AGENCY in Baghdad rushed to broadcast Badran's remarks, putting great stress on them. [See page F 4 for Badran's remarks on Israeli air raids on Iraq. He did not specifically mention the 7 June raid.

JERUSALEM: NEW IRAQI BALLISTIC MISSILE POSSIBLE

TA090819 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 9 Jun 81

[Text] Our military correspondent reports that Iraq has been examining the possibility of developing a new ballistic missile with a range of 3,000 km. In addition to the French-made reactor, which was destroyed, an Italian-made reactor is in the final building stages. Soviet nuclear experts are in Iraq, in spite of the fact that Iraq ceased to use Soviet assistance for the establishment of a nuclear reactor about 6 years ago.

UN ENVOY NOTES PAKISTANI NUCLEAR CAPABILITY

TA090635 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 9 Jun 81

[Text] Israel has complained to the United Nations that Pakistan is working on a nuclear bomb. In the letter from Israeli Ambassador Yehuda Blum, Israel reiterates it support for creating a nuclear-free zone in the Middle East. The Israeli initiative is reguarly voted down in the general assembly. Blum noted that Saudi Arabia and Libya have provided financial assistance to the Pakistanis and there is considerable evidence that they are aiming at producing nuclear weapons. The letter was dated 27 May and circulated at the United Nations together with the announcement of the raid on the Iraqi reactor.

WEST BANK FIGURE ON PLO-JORDAN BODY REPORTED

TA081241 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Text] For the first time since the joint Jordanian-PLO committee for affairs in the territories was established a public figure in Judaea and Samaria is included on the committee. Our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari has learned that Bi'r Zayt University President Hanna Nasir is included in the Palestinian section of the committee. He will be responsible for higher education in the territories on behalf of the committee.

Jordan and the PLO have foiled the incorporation of representatives of George Habash's organization and the pro-Syrian As-Sa'iqah organization on the committee because it is clear that the latter groups intend to destroy the committee from within. The terrorist organizations of Nayif Hawatimah and Ahmad Jibril are also not represented on the joint committee. The joint committee will reconvene in Amman immediately after the situation in Lebanon becomes clear.

ALGERIA

PRESIDENT, DELEGATION LEAVE FOR MOSCOW 8 JUN

LD081226 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Excerpts] President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the FLN, left Algiers this morning for Moscow for a 3-day official visit to the Soviet Union at the invitation of President Leonid Brezhnev, extended to him on behalf of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet and the Soviet Government.

The president is accompanied by an important delegation composed of the following brothers: Sliman Hoffman, chairman of the party International Relations Committee; Mohamed Yala, minister of finance; Abdelhamid Brahimi, minister of planning and national development; Abdallah Nouawria, deputy chairman of the National People's Assembly; Mohieddine Amimour, adviser at the Presidency of the Republic; Mouloud Hamrouche, director general of the Protocol Service; Abdelmalek Kerked, director general at the Presidency of the Republic; Mohamed Salah Dembri, secretary general of the Foreign Ministry, and Nur ad-Din Karhoum, director of the Foreign Ministry Socialist Countries Section.

SUDAN

STATEMENTS CONDEMN ISRAELI RAID ON IRAQ REACTOR

JN082043 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 2005 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Text] Khartoum, 8 Jun (SUNA)--The Foreign Ministry has issued the following statement on the Israeli aggression against the Iraqi nuclear reactor:

Israeli enemy planes have launched a sinful aggression against the Iraqi nuclear reactor and have completely destroyed it. The enemy government has tried to justify its action by saying that Iraq had intended to destroy Israel with nuclear bombs.

Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani has made the following statement on the issue:

In strongly condemning this sinful aggression, Sudan is perfectly aware that the Israeli enemy is determined to destroy all Arab capabilities in order to render the Arab nation permanently weak. Sudan also knows that the Israeli enemy could not have freely roamed about undeterred had he not known that the Arab nation is passing through an unprecedented state of disintegration.

The minister said: To condemn this treacherous aggression is not enough. The Arab nation must pause to revise its position because the Arab states are now engaged in side issues, forgetting their main cause. It is time that we lay down a unified Arab strategy in which roles and tasks will be delineated and in which we declare our adherence to our commitments. This is the only way to confront the Israeli enemy and reduce his pride and arrogance.

The minister concluded by saying: Sudan stands by fraternal Iraq in its determination to go ahead in developing its technical and economic ability. In doing so, Sudan is proceeding from its belief that the pan-Arab duty imposes on all Arab countries the task of preserving their scientific, economic and military resources and of expanding and promoting these resources.

ETHIOPIA

ADDIS ABABA ATTACKS SIAD BARRE 6 JUN SPEECH

LD082102 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 8 Jun 81 EA

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] International news agency reports quoting the Somali leader's 6 June speech to the effect that conflicts arising out of territorial claims would benefit neither Ethiopia nor Somalia constituted the week's most astonishing event. Siad Barre shamelessly voiced fears over the unfriendly relations between Ethiopia and Somalia at the end of his visit to the Republic of Benin. The visit, which has also taken Siad Barre to Nigeria, the Ivory Coast and Togo, was part of a well-planned campaign of deception to precede this month's Nairobi OAU summit.

However, it is easy to assume that the statement reflected his fears about the causes of the conflict and that did not please his audience. Had the statement been made by another party, it would have sounded reasonable, but as it was the expansionist and provocative Siad Barre who made it, whom is he trying to fool or mislead--a man so famous for violating international obligations? If what Siad Barre is trying to do is mislead the African community, then his attempt is as disgraceful as it will be fruitless, for the world community, including Africa, has recognized the Somali leader for what he is.

It has been possible to establish exactly who is responsible for the current tension in the Horn of Africa. The destructive role of the Somali Government in pursuit of its expansionist policy, which contradicts the principles of the OAU, is clear to all. Why, then, is Siad Barre trying to distort the truth? Whom is he trying to fool? Whom is he trying to mislead? What is the truth? The aim of Mogadishu's vain efforts, which it makes in violation of OAU principles, is to secure moral and material support. The truth is that if Somalia had refrained from pursuing a policy of expansionism and from committing repeated acts of aggression against Ethiopia, there would be no conflict between Somalia and Ethiopia. Socialist Ethiopia's principled efforts in the interests of good-neighbor relations and constructive cooperation have earned admiration both within Africa and elsewhere. Ethiopia's desire to renew and strengthen its relations with its neighbors is indicative of the revolutionary government's commitment to peace and fruitful cooperation.

Socialist Ethiopia, the Democratic Republic of the Sudan and the Republic of Kenya have over the past years been working to promote ways and means of bringing about mutual cooperation, peace and stability in the region. The meeting of their foreign ministers in Addis Ababa last April was indicative of the healthy relations between these countries and, in this respect, the Republic of Djibouti has itself expressed interested in cooperation with them. This exemplary cooperation between the region's countries is based on the principles and objectives of the OAU, which encourage good-neighbor relations and regional social and economic cooperation.

Siad Barre's appeal for a peaceful resolution of the conflict between Ethiopia and Somalia, however, is not genuine, because until the Mogadishu regime renounces once and for all its professed expansionist nightmare [qezat], it will be hard to imagine how peace and stability can prevail in the region. For this reason Siad Barre's statement cannot deceive world opinion--let alone Ethiopia--about the sufferings of the Somali people, which is caused by government corruption. Siad Barre's adventurist attempts to annex the territories of neighboring countries will bring about ultimate disaster and his actions demonstrate once again that neither he nor his stooges have learned the lessons of the past, but are continuing to pursue the path leading to destruction.

BENIN

COMMUNIQUE REPORTED FOLLOWING SIAD BARRE VISIT

AB071154 Paris AFP in English 1056 GMT 7 Jun 81

[Text] Cotonou, June 7 (AFP)--President Mohammed Siad Barre of Somalia, on an African tour prior to the pan-African summit in Kenya this month, said here that neither side was profiting from his country's conflict with Ethiopia.

In a joint communique, Mr. Siad Barre and Benin President Mathieu Kerekou reaffirmed their conviction that the dispute over Ethiopia's Ogaden region, where Somali-backed separatist guerrillas are fighting the central government, could be resolved in a peaceful, fair way by Africans alone, in the framework of the Organization of African Unity. The OAU holds its annual summit meeting June 24-27 in Nairobi.

The communique was issued here at the end of Mr. Siad Barre's two-day stay in Benin. He then went on to Ivory Coast for another two-day visit. Earlier, he visited Nigeria for talks with President Shehu Shagari.

The Somalia and Benin leaders also mentioned Chad in their communique, saying they supported all efforts by the OAU to maintain the country's territorial integrity.

NIGERIA

COMMUNIQUE SIGNED FOLLOWING SIAD BARRE VISIT

AB051314 Lagos International Service in English 1230 GMT 5 Jun 81

[Text] Nigeria and Somalia today signed a cooperation agreement in a number of areas. These include the economic, scientific, technical, cultural and educational fields. The cooperation agreement was signed in Lagos today between the Nigerian leader President Shehu Shagari, and President Siad Barre at the end of his 4-day state visit to Nigeria.

In a communique signed later, the two leaders stressed their determination to further strengthen and consolidate the xisting relations between them. On international relations, the two presidents endorsed the program of action adopted at the OAU economic summit held in Lagos. On African regional affairs, the two presidents expressed grave concern and indignation about the situation in southern Africa and strongly condemned the recent military incursions of the racist South African Government into Angola and Mozambique.

With regard to Namibia, they called on the international community to reject any attempt to install an unrepresentative, undemocratic and puppet government in the territory. They also underlined the urgent need for the United Nations to assume its responsibilities as the legal authority to administer Namibia. On Chad, the two presidents expressed great concern at the continuing crisis and reaffirmed their conviction that a solution could be found on the basis of a negotiated settlement.

As regard the situation in the Middle East, they stated that no just and lasting solution was possible without the participation of the Palestinian people's organization, PLO, and the complete withdrawal of Israel from all occupied Arab territories.

President Barre expressed warm appreciation to the government and people of Nigeria for the hospitality accorded him during his stay and extended an invitation to his Nigerian counterpart to visit Somalia. The Somali leader has since left for home.

SIAD BARRE VISIT DEMONSTRATES 'BROTHERLINESS'

AB081948 Lagos International Service in English 1630 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] What made President Mohamed Siad Barre's visit to Nigeria significant is the indisputable fact that in today's complex and highly interdependent world, cooperation between states is indispensable and the exchange of visits by heads of state is one way of fostering such cooperation.

Somalia and Nigeria have many things in common and have a lot to learn from each other. For instance, apart from being situated on the African Continent, Somalia and Nigeria are both developing countries. This means they both have formidable social, economic and political problems to contend with. They both share a common colonial experience, having been under British rule at one time or the other. Somalia and Nigeria also have a lot of experience to share in the field of agriculture. Somalia's vegetation is, on the main, open grassland and as such is a major producer of livestock, hide and skin.

Nigeria has been looking for ways of developing this sector of her economy. Nigerian and Somalian officials can always compare notes on livestock farming. Also, as a result of the Iranian-Iraqi war, Somalia has been hit by an oil shortage. Nigeria is in the position to help in alleviating this problem. Another area where Nigeria can be of tremendous help to Somalia is in solving her refugee and drought problems. There is also the Somali-Ethiopian conflict. Nigeria, as the chairman of the OAU good offices committee on the conflict, could effectively use her influence to find a lasting solution to the problem.

Perhaps the most important aspect of the Somalia head of state's visit to Nigeria was his discussion with President Shehu Shagari. The communique issued at the end of the talks clearly show the oneness of the wishes and aspirations of the two countries. According to the two leaders, the meeting was marked by fraternal understanding, mutual confidence and identical views on all issues. They both agreed to work together in solving their common problems. This could take the form of cooperation in economic, scientific, technical, cultural and educational matters.

On international relations, the two presidents viewed with great concern the continued widening gap between the developing and developed countries. They, however, expressed satisfaction on efforts to promote inter-African trade. They expressed great indignation about the situation in southern Africa and condemned the continued military incursions of the racist South African Government into neighboring African countries. With regards to Namibia, they called on the international community to reject any attempt to install a puppet government in that territory. They went further to reaffirm their total and unwavering commitment to the liberation struggle in southern Africa.

On Chad, the two presidents expressed great concern at the continuing crisis and re-affirmed their conviction that a lasting solution could be found on the basis of a negotiated settlement.

As regards the situation in the Middle East, President Siad Barre and his host took the opportunity to express their recognition of the PLO as the only legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. They also called on Israel to withdraw completely from all occupied Arab territories.

At the end of the visit, President Siad Barre not only expressed warm appreciation to the government and people of Nigeria for the hospitality accorded him during his stay in the country, but also invited President Shehu Shagari to visit his country. This clearly indicates that a spirit of brotherliness, friendship and mutual respect has been established between Somalia and Nigeria.

COMMENTARY CALLS ECOWAS DEFENSE PACT 'FIRST STEP'

AB081725 Lagos International Service in English 1530 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] At their last meeting in Freetown, Sierra Leone, the heads of state of the Economic Community of West African States [ECOWAS] made a major breakthrough when member countries agreed to set up a joint defense force for the subregion. Under the agreement, units from the armies of ECOWAS countries will constitute a mutual defense force in the event of external aggression against any member state.

The forces wll engage in joint military maneuvers, for the purpose of military preparedness. A defense committee comprising defense ministers and chiefs of staff was to be formed. In addition, the heads of state and government will form a defense council. As of now, only Mali, Cape Verde and Guinea-Bissau have signed the protocol on defense matters.

The significance of a defense protocol cannot be overemphasized, particularly at a time when almost every African country is becoming more and more vulnerable to external aggression. It is a fact that there cannot be any meaningful development without peace and adequate security. In fact, both are necessary conditions for the welfare and prosperity of the citizens of any state, country or subregion. And to the extent that this is the case for member countries of ECOWAS union, such a defense pact will be indispensable. Besides, the establishment of the ECOWAS joint defense force can be seen as a point of departure for the setting up of a similar force on a continental level. It is recalled that in the early 1960's President Kwame Nkrumah's initiative in the Casablanca group of African states for the setting up of an African high command was somewhat unpopular. Since then, many radical African countries have not relented in their efforts for a continental high command similar to those of NATO and the Warsaw Pact.

But in spite of the fact that the charter of the OAU refers in its preamble to the need to establish and maintain conditions of peace and security on the continent, members only agreed in dubious terms to coordinate and harmonize their general policies for defense and security. In fact, the defense commission set up has been ineffective because it has neither the power nor the equipment with which to work. There is no doubt that several factors have militated against the formation of an African high command. One of these is undisputably the reluctance of most African countries to give up a part of their soveriegnty for a continental cause. Ironically, there are compelling reasons why African states ought to give their support to the idea of a united defense system for the continent. South Africa, for one, poses a constant threat to the security of the states in southern Africa. It recently fulfilled its promise to attack any neighboring state that provides sanctuary to black freedom fighters. For instance, the headquarters of the African Natiional Congress of South Africa was attacked in Maputo, Mozambique. The racists have vowed to carry out similar raids anywhere else when the occasion demands. Also there is the question of foreign military intervention in African affairs.

Today, foreign troops are stationed in areas that should be manned by an African defense force. What has happened so far is that the difficulties in the way of the formation of such a defense force have been played down. What should be realized, however, is that the threat to the independence and sovereignty of each African nation is beyond the means of a single state to contain. The ECOWAS protocol on mutual defense force must therefore be seen as a first step toward an attempt for a collective defense system for the West African subregion. Whether or not the move will appeal to the rest of Africa is a question of time.

ZIMBABWE

MUGABE PROMISES POLITICAL, MORAL SUPPORT TO SWAPO

LD081008 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 7 Jun 81 CA

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, says Zimbabwe will continue to give SWAPO political and moral support. Speaking at a news conference in Fort Victoria yesterday, Comrade Mugabe said this support will still be channeled through the Organization of African Unity and at meetings of the United Nations General Assembly. He said Zimbabwe will not have any training bases because SWAPO is being offered such facilities elsewhere. The prime minister said he is urging Zimbabweans to contribute money to provide SWAPO with food and medicine.

SWAPO LEADER INTERVIEWED BEFORE DEPARTING SALISBURY

LD081404 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 8 Jun 81

[Text] The visiting leader of the South-West Africa People's Organization, SWAPO, Comrade Sam Nujoma, left Salisbury today at the end of a week-long visit to Zimbabwe during which he participated in Namibia solidarity week celebrations. In a (?short) interview at the airport before his departure, Comrade Nujoma said the unity which has been achieved in Zimbabwe since independence is greatly inspiring to the people of Namibia. Comrade Nujoma was seen off at Salisbury airport by the minister without portfolio, Dr Joshua Nkomo, the deputy minister of foreign affairs, Comrade Mbengegwi, the ambassador of Egypt, the high commissioners of Ghana and Nigeria, as well as by other senior government officials.

Earlier at a press conference the leader of the South-West Africa People's Organization, SWAPO, accused the United States of actively undermining international efforts to reach a peaceful settlement in Namibia. Comrade Nujoma said that as it stands an intensification of the armed struggle is the only answer left to the Namibian problem. Of his 1-week stay in Zimbabwe to mark solidarity week, Comrade Nujoma said that his nine-man delegation leaves the country highly impressed by the economic development and resettlement programs of the government. He also said that Zimbabwe's independence has added strength to the frontline states. Comrade Nujoma said that thousands of dollars had been raised in Zimbabwe for SWAPO and the fund-raising activities will continue.

Earlier, in an interview with the ZBC [Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation], Comrade Nujoma confirmed that some Zimbabwean reactionaries trained in apartheid-ruled South Africa are fighting alongside the racist Pretoria troops. Comrade Nujoma said even with this support of people of (no morals) his forces would defeat racist South African troops just as they were defeated in Zimbabwe when they fought for the Smith regime.

Before leaving Salisbury, Comrade Nujoma and his delegation paid a farewell call on the president, Comrade Banana, and the prime minister, Comrade Mugabe.